The Middlebury Campus

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ZOO Faces Second Year on Provisional Status

By Joshua Carson
Staff Writer

The Community Council has completed its annual social house review and sent its recommendations to President John McCardell. The Council recommended that all social houses continue this year without stipulations, except for Zeta Theta Phi (ZOO).

"Most of the houses had very good reviews," said Dean of Student Affairs and Community Council Co-chair Ann Hanson. She stated, however, that "Zeta Theta Phi was continued with stipulations and therefore is on provisional status. Zeta Theta Phi needs to improve its respect for its facilitates, its facilities staff and the leadership of the house."

Each year, the Council is charged with reviewing the status of each social house. This review provides guidance and direction to the houses and ensures that houses are respecting College policy. The Council then sends its recommendations to President McCardell, who confirms or rejects them.

While McCardell has yet to make a decision regarding this year's recommendation, he said, "Whenever students show disrespect for other students, for property or for staff, disciplinary action is appropriate."

Last year, ZOO and Alpha Delta Phi (ADP) were placed on provisional status when they failed to meet stipulations established in the Council's previous review. Both houses made concerted efforts this year to meet all conditions.

ZOO met every requirement of the Community Council this year except a mandated decrease in dorm damage to below $2,000. During a presentation three weeks ago to the Community Council, ZOO leadership addressed this problem. They acknowledged the need to improve respect for house and the facilities staff.

The ZOO members noted, however, that much of the damage occurs during parties open to the entire campus. Said ZOO President Michael Velez '03, "The house has continued to reduce the amount of dorm damage in each semester, and we are focusing on taking more responsibility for our guests when they enter our house for parties, along with a 'treat this house as if it was your

(see Community, page 5)

Vlad Lodoaba

Paula Yepes '03 and Adam Cohen '03, members of Posse I, reflect on four years of trailblazing, challenges and triumphs.

First Posse Poised for Milestone Graduation

By Claire Bourne
Managing Editor

Dean of Ross Commons Janine Clookey gazes at the nine drawings that adorn her office wall. She looks at them for a long time, contemplating each one by one. Eight depict faces — some drawn with colorful magic markers, some sticking to a simple blue pen — while one illustrates a black rose caught between wind and sunshine. The tenth (because there should have been 10) is noticeably missing. "I love them all," says Clookey, unable to peel her eyes away.

She is talking about Posse I, the first fruit of Middlebury College's burgeoning relationship with the New York City-based Posse Foundation. The group of nine, minus Tiffany Holmes, one of four women who passed away in an auto accident in April 2000, will be among the 493 seniors to graduate from the College on May 27.

This milestone comes on the heels of the College's decision to extend its contract with the Posse Foundation for another five years — until 2012. "The success of Posse I confirms that the Posse model works," said Dean of Enrollment Planning Mike Schoenfeld, who was instrumental in establishing ties with the Foundation in 1998.

Middlebury Trustee Robin Graham first brought the Posse Foundation to Schoenfeld's attention five years ago. College representatives met with Posse staff in New York and ultimately decided that the Foundation's mission

(see Posse, page 8)

All Aboard!

Julia Randall

Fueled by vegetable oil, *a bio bus converted by Middlebury students readies for a westward roadtrip this summer. See page 21 for full story.*

College to Abolish PIN Bill System, Transition to Debit

By Nicolas Emery
News Editor

The Executive Council of Middlebury College has decided to discontinue use of the current MiddCard charging system in favor of a debit system which will go into effect in the fall of 2004.

The basic difference between the current credit-based system and a debit account system lies in the funding of the account. Instead of paying a PIN bill which includes all the purchases and telephone calls made in a month's time, students will draw money out of an account that they have previously deposited funds into. Spending will be limited to the funds that are contained in the debit account.

According to Assistant Treasurer and Director of Business Services Thomas Corbin, the current MiddCard system has several problems which necessitate the transition to a debit system.

Currently, MiddCards are based on a "smart chip" which contains each student's account information on it. The company providing this technology is discontinuing production of the chip hardware.

Reliability of the MiddCards themselves has also proved to be problematic. The new ID cards issued under the debit system will feature magnetic stripe technology.

"I think the mag-stripe technology is more reliable than the current MiddCard chip technology," said McCullough General Manager Steve Reigle. "I can see lots of improvement regarding transaction speed at the cash registers. In addition, the failure rate of the card swipes should also be greatly reduced."

However, members of the Student Government Association (SGA) were not pleased to learn of the administration's decision regarding the transition to debit accounts.

According to SGA President Ginny Hunt '03, the SGA was informed of the decision Tuesday morning, and Student Co-chair of Community Council (SCCOCC) Ben LaBolt reports that

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COLLEGE

By Edward Pickering and Andrea Gissing
News Editors

Yale Graduate Students Vote Down Union

In a vote Wednesday, Yale University graduate students rejected a move to unionize. The pro-union group that led the move, Graduate Employees and Students Organization (GESO), suffered a sound defeat with 694 voting against the move and 651 in support.

Anita M. Seth, GESO's chairwoman, said "Obviously I'm very surprised and disappointed. It's a really split vote. We've always known that Yale is a hard place to organize a union because it's the most antiunion place." Disappointed but still determined, Seth's group will increase its efforts to win support.

Opponents of unionization cited many reasons for their collective success. Many felt that GESO's tactics were too aggressive, its leadership dictatorial. Others recalled the past history of unions at Yale and, consequently, shied away from supporting a new union. Unions in the past engaged in numerous strikes and fights with the university, they say.

Labor experts, however, agree the vote could hamstring efforts to unionize Yale graduate students for years to come and signals that graduate students at other universities may not be so eager to unionize.

The Yale vote mirrored a vote that occurred at Cornell last October. At the New York school, graduate students voted overwhelming against unionizing, 1,351 to 580. Said Harry Katz, a professor of labor relations at Cornell, "The overall record for graduate student unionization has been pretty strong, but with the last two big votes, at Yale and Cornell, going against unionization, it may be signaling that something of considerable significance is going on."

Yale administrators support the position taken by Columbia and Brown, which are seeking to annul a two-year old labor board ruling that found graduate students at private universities had the right to unionize.

Many graduate students at Yale complained that the vote had been organized and administered unfairly. The sole voting booth on campus, they noted, was located near the Humanities buildings, where pro-union sentiment ran highest, and far from the science buildings, where anti-union sentiment was strongest.

Source: *The New York Times*

Colleges Rush to be Renamed

According to Higher Education Publications Inc., an Arlington Va., based corporation, in the past 10 years, 162 U.S. institutions have changed their names from "college" to "university." Many of these new universities, however, are still advertising themselves as having a college-like atmosphere, while others that have retained the collegiate nomenclature tell potential applicants of their similarities with universities.

Higher education experts say that most Americans falsely assume that there are rules to determining the names institutions have, for example that schools with graduate students are universities and schools without them are colleges.

Ted Mitchell, president of Occidental College, explains that the decision behind the names is basically, "all about marketing.""College connotes a slow pace, cozy campuses, tweedy faculty, ivy-covered gothic-style buildings and a curriculum that runs to the classics. University denotes a bustling city of academic energy and scientific progress, with things always moving and shaking with an eye to the future and the main chance."

The more modern, competitive title, university, appeals to 21st-century teenagers, however. Studies done by the consulting firm George Dehne & Associatesby found that two-thirds of prospective students planned on enrolling in a public or a private university, not a college. They found, as well, that universities were more highly regarded than colleges by employers and graduate schools.

One university at least, — the former University of Wooster — has switched to being a college, but it is not likely to start a competing trend because it accomplished this rare feat in 1915.

Source: *The Washington Post*

Colby College Begins $6.2-Million Expansion

Colby College's Board of Trustees approved the spending of $6.2 million dollars on a campus expansion project that will result in the construction of four new buildings over the next 10 years. The project is scheduled to start later this year.

Colby officials expect on having the necessary permits in hand by early fall so that construction, starting with the groundbreaking for the Colby Green, can begin. Construction for the planned alumni center is scheduled to start spring of 2004, followed by the building of the social science/interdisciplinary building.

Landscaping and earthwork for the Colby Green accounts for almost $2 million of the budgeted amount.

The plans are the result of several years of planning with firms from Maine and Massachusetts. The plans were approved by Colby trustees in April.

Source: Colby College

Quotes of the Week:

My perception is that it's the norm at many high schools with lots of talented students to try to adorn transcripts with as many AP's as possible. Students are arriving at our doorsteps with a heap of credits.

— Robert Schine, dean of faculty

The AIDS crisis . . . is one of the most important concerns facing humanity as we move into the 21st century.

— Congressman Bernie Sanders, Independent Representative for Vermont

It is unacceptable for [Executive Council] to play political games with students and student governments, making decisions in a clandestine manner at the end of the year when nobobdy is paying attention.

— Christopher Howard '04.5 on the planned transition to a debit card system

MiddBRIEFS

Four Staff Members Recognized for Service

By Alyssa Thurston
Staff Writer

Secretary of the College Eric Davis announced the recipients of the 2003 Staff Recognition Awards.

This year's recipients included Head Baker Wayne (Pat) Broughton from Dining Services, Laboratory Supervisor from Science Technical Support Services Crispin Butler, Associate Dean of Student Affairs Kathy Foley-Giorgio and Facilities Management Supervisor Wayne Hall.

Professor Emeritus of Sociology Rudolph K. Haerle Jr. established the awards "as a way of recognizing the many members of the Middlebury College staff who contribute to the vitality of the College community and support the College's academic mission."

Every year, four awards total are presented. One award goes to a staff member from Dining Services, another goes to a staff member from Facilities Management, and the remaining two go to staff members from any College department.

Staff members may be nominated for the annual award by any member of the College community.

A selection committee, comprised of the award winners from the previous year, makes the final decisions on the award recipients. This year's committee members were Director of Computing and Networking Tom Cutter, First Cook/Chef at the Freeman International Center (FIC) Paul LaRocque, Assistant Director of Custodial Services Linda Ross from Facilities Management and Assistant Director of the Rohatyn Center for International Affairs Charlotte Tate.

Davis served as the non-voting mediator of the committee.

Criteria used to select award winners, as specified by Haerle, included the nominees' past leadership experience, stewardship, their general attitude and community service.

Ross acknowledged that choosing this year's group of winners was difficult, given the outstanding qualities of all the nominees. She praised the four winners for 2003, saying, "Middlebury is very fortunate to have these four individuals as part of our staff, and I am honored to be able to work with each of the."

The four winners will each receive a cash prize of $200 and their names will be engraved on a plaque that hangs in The Grille.

President John McCardell and President of Staff Council Lisa Terrier will present the Awards on Monday, June 2, at a reception to be held in Redfield Proctor at 4:30 p.m.

Seniors Elect Speakers for Ceremony

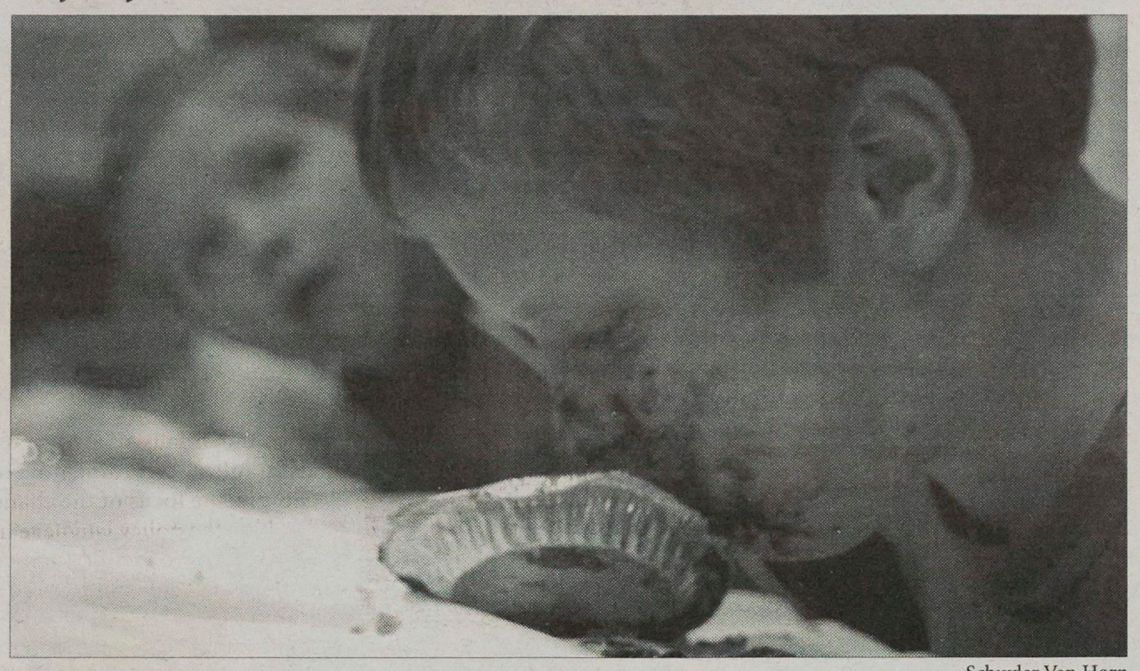
By Edward Pickering
News Editor

Natalie Howley '03 and Associate Professor of Mathematics & Computer Science and Co-Faculty Head of Ross Commons Steve Abbott have been announced as the student and faculty speakers for the Senior Awards Ceremony. 313 seniors voted in the final election, selecting Abbott from a list of six faculty nominees and Howley from a list of five student nominees.

"I was surprised and honored to be given the privilege of addressing an audience of senior award winners," said Howley, a mathematics major. "It is nice to get a pat on the back from your professors but even better to get one from your peers. I will try to make my speech entertaining and concise," she said. Kaitlin Gregg '03, originally listed as a nominee for student speaker, was named the Phi Beta Kappa speaker.

Student nominees this year included, in addition to Natalie Howley, seniors Fahim Ahmed, Julia Fein, Quynh Nguyen, Katharine Ott, Jill Parsons and Michael Unger. Faculty nominees aside from Abbott included Assistant Professor of English Antonia Losano, Professor of English David Price, Benjamin F. Wissler Professor of Physics Rich Wolfson and Pardon Tillinghast Professor of Religion Larry Yarbrough.

May Day Madness



Schuyler Van Horn

Determined to win, *a youngster cleans off his plate in the pie-eating contest during Friday's May Day celebration held in Kenyon Arena.*

PALANA Honors Its Supporters in Annual Ceremony

By Daniel Phillips
Staff Writer

The Pan-African-Latino-Asian-Native American (PALANA) Center held its annual program of recognition last Thursday, May 1, at the Fletcher House to honor seniors, faculty, staff and campus organizations that have enriched and supported PALANA and its program over the past year. The house's entryway became a teeming reception area as students and faculty alike were met with a warm welcome at the academic interest house devoted to promoting multiculturalism on campus. Feelings of nostalgia pervaded the air as some members of the congregation realized they would be meeting for the last time at Middlebury.

Leroy Nesbitt '82, senior advisor for institutional diversity, got the ball rolling by introducing the occasion as an opportunity for PALANA to recognize people who have helped make Middlebury "a place with cultural richness — a place where we all want to be." Specifically, Nesbitt described a hip-hop concert in the fall which successfully "elevated that kind of music" on campus. Middlebury has also "seen so much growth of Caribbean culture in so many venues," Nesbitt added. He remarked on the "camaraderie of the 16 students living with and learning from one another in the Fletcher House." Nesbitt cited certain instances for which PALANA should be especially proud, such as the quality of dialogue generated on the issue of affirmative action. He concluded by saying how pleased he is that something good and different is always going on at Middlebury College.

Jessa Karki, assistant in academic administration, took the podium to recognize and extend thanks to faculty and staff who have contributed to PALANA this year. Among a long list of those commended, Catering Manager Chaz Sternberg and the Facilities Management Department were noted as going "above and beyond" in their efforts. Karki also recognized outstanding seniors on behalf of PALANA, naming them "the backbone of the organization," as she was pleased to have the opportunities of forming such endearing relationships.

Nesbitt then addressed Ingrid De Léon '00, assistant director of academic support, who will be departing from Middlebury next year to pursue interests abroad. He described how De Léon has "been taking advantage of all she knows about Middlebury," as students presented her with roses in tear-filled appreciation for all of her caring advice and guidance. Students expressed support for her involvement with the Pan-Caribbean Students Organization (PCSO) on campus and congratulated her on her recent marital engagement.

Schuyler Van Horn

Ingrid De Léon '00 smiles with professors at Thursday's celebratory dinner hosted by PALANA.

De Léon, who majored in Latin American studies after taking a particularly inspiring Spanish class, said how much of a privilege it was for her to see the students grow and could not wait to see the senior

(see PALANA, page 8)

Sexual Assault Policy Revised

By Ian Fleishman
Staff Writer

Kathy Foley-Giorgio, associate dean of student affairs and chair of the Sexual Assault Policy Working Group (SAPWG), emerged from Monday's Community Council meeting pleased. The Council had just approved substantial revisions to the wording of the College Handbook policy on sexual assault. This change results from nearly a year of work by Foley-Giorgio and SAPWG.

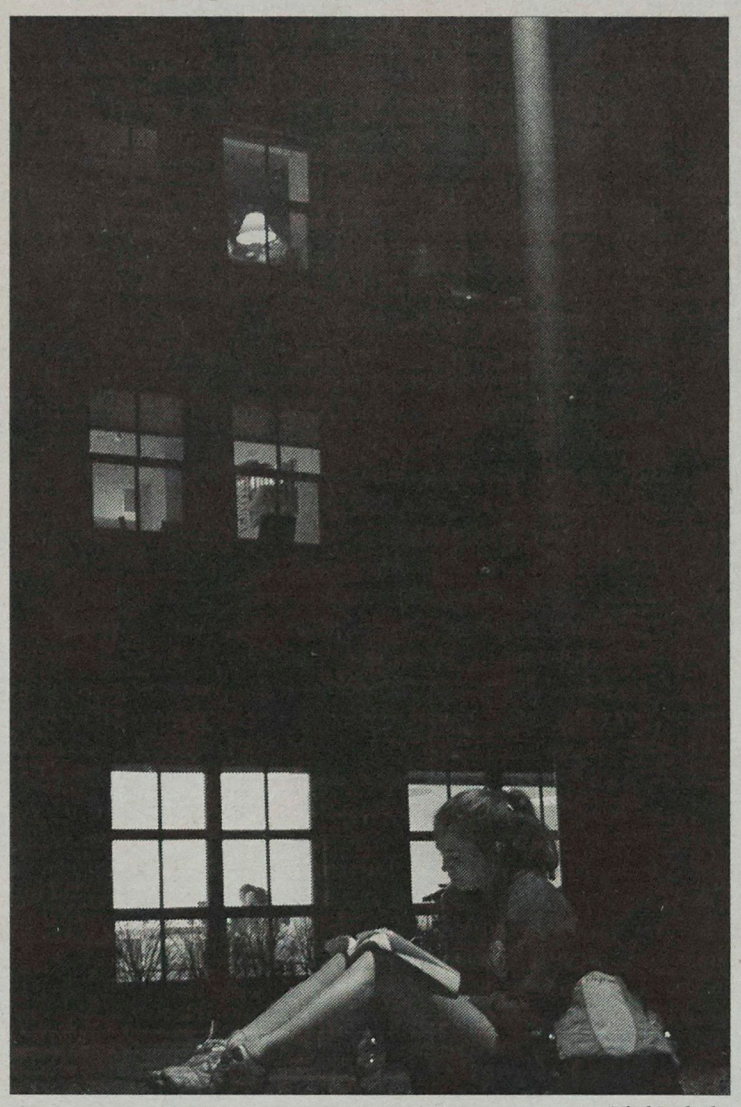
SAPWG is a study group that was established by Dean of Student Affairs Ann Hanson during the 2001-2002 year. The group was created in response to widespread campus concern over the current sexual assault policy to research and suggest improvements to the handling of sexual assault at Middlebury College. SAPWG consists of a number of deans, students and directors of different campus offices. On April 23 of this year, the SAPWG submitted a four-part recommendation to Hanson.

They proposed: (1) making changes to the language and structure of the current sexual assault policy; (2) considering the development and implementation of anonymous reporting of sexual assaults on campus; (3) adapting the current judicial process to make it more accessible to survivors of sexual assault and (4) developing plans to educate the college community regarding sexual assault policies and practices.

The Community Council approved the changes to the language of the sexual assault policy at Monday's meeting. These changes are contingent upon a final revision by College attorney Karen McAndrew. The 2003-2004 College Handbook will have a much clearer, positively worded policy on sexual assault. The emphasis is placed on letting students know that there are options of confidentially reporting sexual assault. According to Foley-Giorgio, the focus of the change is "making the policy language more accessible, and identifying the resources available and the level of confidentiality that is afforded with each person or organization so that a survivor of sexual assault would understand the implica-

(see Handbook, page 5)

Lit by Lamplight



Vlad Lodoaba

Prefering outside air, *Mary-Clare Feldman '04 studies beneath a towering lampost in front of Ross Dining Hall.*

Card Decision Made Without Student Input

(continued from page 1)

the Community Council learned of the decision last Thursday. Both Hunt and LaBolt question why the student body was not a part of the decision to switch systems.

"Although this decision primarily affects student life," said Hunt, "no student input was solicited or considered."

According to Hunt and SGA President-elect Sam Rodriguez '04, the debit system issue was brought up by a student at the last town hall meeting. However, "President McCardell and members of the Executive Council adamantly reassured all present that the decision was not being made any time soon, dismissing any fears of a switch," said Hunt.

Rodriguez expressed his disappointment that "the administration did not take the opportunity to garner student input on that major issue. That said, it's not productive to focus on the mistakes of the past, it is only my place to discuss what we could conceivably achieve in the future."

Citing the administration's apparent unwillingness to back down on this issue, LaBolt stressed that "all changes and concerns we have about it will have to be considered within the debit system."

The SGA has several concerns regarding the debit accounts. "The most important thing is that some form of credit system will be maintained for purchasing books," said SCCOCC-elect Erin Sullivan '04.5.

Currently, students are able to buy books on their PIN bill regardless of whether they have paid their PIN bill. Hunt suggested that the debit system be extended to allow agreements with merchants in the town of Middlebury so that students could use their ID cards to purchase items there as well. Hunt and Rodriguez also suggested that there be a window of overspending to help students buy supplies or make emergency phone calls if the money in their account ran out.

Hunt concluded by saying that students should be allowed to have a limited ability to take money directly out of their debit account as a way to access the cash that they have deposited.

Corbin said that a working group will be established this summer to discuss and manage the details and implementation of the system. He asserted that a vendor for the new ID cards would likely be selected sometime in November of 2003.

Regarding the debit system, Emily Hruby '05 said, "I would probably put in a smaller amount of money and end up spending less [than I do with the current PIN bill system]," while Mike Olcott '04 worried that "There's no way to contest a charge...the money just gets taken and there's no way to look over your bill." These issues and others will be addressed by the working group this summer.

Rodriguez promised that "This will become a pet project of mine next year. I will want to capitalize on any good that students will be able to glean from this change.

Extra Credit: An Analytical View of Advanced Placement

By Charles Goulding
Staff Writer

"It's an industry, it's the norm, and I don't buy it," stated Robert Schine, dean of faculty and father of a high school student, in discussing the College Board and the way in which the Advanced Placement (AP) exam has permeated academia. Debate has surged in recent months with regard to the college's stance on AP exams. In particular, the Educational Affairs Committee (EAC) has questioned the current policy of awarding Middlebury College credit for scoring, in most cases, a four or a five on an AP exam. "It is the view of the EAC that a college degree should represent work done at the college level," stated Secretary of the College Eric Davis.

> Scrutiny of this kind boils down to a debate over the inherent nature of a college degree. "Are we a credentialing institution or an educational institution?"

Scrutiny of this kind boils down to a debate over the inherent nature of a college degree. "Are we a credentialing institution or an educational institution?" summarized Mike Schoenfeld, dean of enrollment planning and a member of the EAC. Other colleges like Harvard University, Amherst College and Hamilton College have already limited the academic weight typically awarded APs. Harvard first-year Todd Bartels stated, "the only thing APs allow you to do here is make you eligible for Sophomore Standing, which few people choose to pursue anyway." With regard to this change, Harvard Admissions Director Marlyn McGath-Lewis commented how the changes reflect "what a Harvard degree is worth" (Princeton Review).

Debate of this kind has called into question not only the inherent nature of a college degree, but also the intriguing relationship between academia and the College Board (the maker of the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) and AP) exams. Few deny the rapid, imperial growth of the College Board. To what extent, however, does this rapid imperialization put a strain on the tenuous relationship between academia and the corporate world? Who is the College Board?

A Brief History

The College Board is a non-profit organization founded in 1900 "whose mission is to prepare, inspire and connect students to college and opportunity." Initially, the College Board was composed of only a handful of colleges who wished to consolidate and simplify the transition process from secondary school to college. The College Board implemented the "common placement exam" to eradicate the hassles associated with individual colleges forcing each incoming student to take a plethora of entrance exams. This test would later be renamed the SAT.

The AP exam dates back to the 1950s, when two concurrent studies, one by the Ford Foundation for the Advancement of Studies, and one by Kenyon College, concluded that "high schools and colleges could and should work together to avoid repetition in coursework in the high-school and college levels and allow motivated students to work at the height of their capabilities and advance as quickly as possible."

The Ford Foundation, and other educational initiatives emanating from the corporate world, can be understood within the milieu of the post-World War II, Cold War era. The partnership of corporate America and the educational system is therefore as responsible for the inception of the College Board and its AP program as are America's colleges and universities.

After a successful pilot program involving 12 renowned prep-schools offering classes for college credit at 12 select colleges, the 24 schools decided to consolidate their efforts under the auspices of the College Board, who took over administration of the program in 1955. The College Board sought the services of the Educational Testing Service (ETS) in order to provide a test with which to evaluate participants of the newly dubbed "Advanced Placement Program" (www.collegeboard.com).

The ETS, like the College Board, is a not-for-profit organization. The ETS creates standardized tests such as the SAT and AP, which are then administered by the College Board. Both the College Board and the ETS enjoy tax-exempt status due to the educational nature of their service under section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code Publication 557 (www.irs.gov).

Rapid Proliferation and Academic Consequences

The College Board has enjoyed a rapid expansion of its programs and testing services within the past decade, particularly with respect to its AP program. In 1997, 581,544 students took 921,601 AP exams. Last year, 937,951 students took 1,585,516 exams. Thus, over this time span, the number of students taking the AP test has risen 61 percent, and the number of tests administered grew by 72 percent (www.collegeboard.com).

The proliferation of AP testing has had many ramifications for the structure and nature of academia. Stated Schoenfeld, "in many high-schools, honors programs for exceptional students have been replaced by AP programs."

Furthermore, the pressure to inundate one's transcript with AP credits pervades the academic life of many high schools. "I felt inclined to take as many AP's as I could, as if they were some sort of achievement trophy," stated Bartels. "I took 10 in total and I can think of no benefit to them except as a way to impress admissions officers." Megan Hutchin '05 commented, "I took six AP classes total. I hated math and science, but I took Calculus AP, Statistics AP and Biology AP anyway — and killed myself in the process. All the other kids in my grade were doing the same thing, so I basically felt like I had to also in order to keep up."

Hutchin added that she thought the AP program provided students with an opportunity to challenge themselves. "I took five AP's," remarked Phil Koretz '05.5, "because I wanted to take the most challenging courses available. I feel fine about having done so, but I'd feel better if my AP courses were on par with the quality of my college classes. Thus far they haven't been."

Schine summarized, "my perception is that it's the norm at many high-schools with lots of talented students to try to adorn transcripts with as many AP's as possible. Students are arriving at our doorsteps with a heap of credits."

In 1997, 326 first-years entered Middlebury with a total of 1,105 AP credits. This year, 333 students boast 1,508 credits, a 36 percent increase, according to the College Registrar's Office. Interestingly, while the number of credits has grown, the number of students carrying them has remained stable. Thus, at least in Middlebury's case, the College Board has failed to extend the AP exam to a more diversified population. Instead, these numbers indicate that the privileged few are simply "upping the admissions ante" among themselves, accruing as many credits as possible in an effort to distinguish themselves as worthy candidates. As an anonymous student put it, "at select places, people assume that if you aren't taking an insane amount of AP courses, then you aren't serious about going to college."

> The College Board and the Educational Testing Service have made an entire industry out of standardized testing and test preparation.

Academic Sanctity

Regardless of how effective AP courses are as a replacement for honors classes, the role of the AP in academia has clearly transgressed its intended purpose. Both Schine and Schoenfeld concurred that the purpose of AP is to allow talented students to get a head start in a subject of their choosing so as to "hit the ground running," upon arrival at college. Many students enter college with eight or more credits to their name — sometimes two full years of college — often in courses in which they have no interest to pursue.

Many feel the proliferation of the AP program has had deleterious effects on the quality of high-school academics. "It completely poisons the motives of what education is all about," stated Hutchin. "For example, when I took AP Bio, we just raced through all the material, regardless of whether we understood the material or not. Everything felt so planned — it was like taking a year-long prep course so we could pass an exam. No one cared whether we understood what was going on."

Schine indicated that while many high schools offer exceptional AP courses, "there are some courses out there specifically designed to do well on the exam. I think that's a problem. I would surmise that when a course is taught well for the purpose of scoring well on an exam, a student's education is not being served."

"At my daughter's school they teach to the test. Period," added one Middlebury resident, voicing a common criticism of the AP program with reference to her daughter's high school.

The College Board and the ETS have made an entire industry out of standardized testing and test preparation. "They make a tremendous amount of money," stated Schoenfeld. The College Board and the ETS have turned testing and the demand for test preparation help into a billion dollar industry, with companies such as the Princeton Review benefiting mightily. Test preparation books, tutors and the tests themselves, have built the world of standardized testing into a billion dollar industry. "I heard somebody make the analogy of a part church, part used car dealer," continued Schoenfeld. "I suppose you could extend that to the College Board: the church part sets high standards for you and pushes you to excel. Then the used-car part says: you gotta pay us to do it all for you."

The Numbers

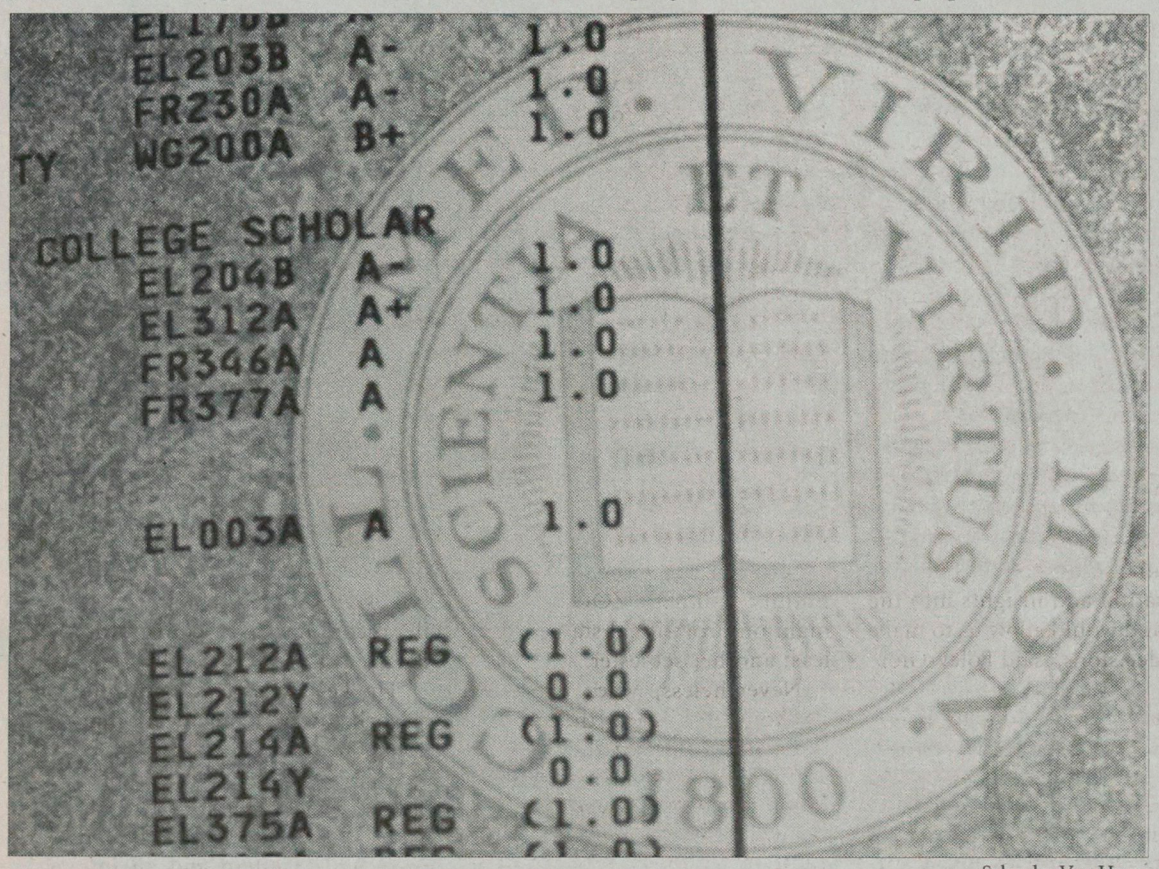
The College Board 2000-2001 Annual Report states that the College Board received $325 million in total revenue for the fiscal year, a $25 million, eight percent, increase from the previous year (www.collegeboard.com). "Clearly this is what we would call a 'growth business,'" stated Robert Gordon, a New York City based Certified Public Accountant. The College Board also reported $311 million in total expenses, of which $123 million or 39.6 percent were attributed to "unrestricted net assets." Gordon continued, "This company has a lot of what we call 'leverage' — they basically have a monopoly on a veritable cash cow business."

"Any economist would tell you a company with a lot of leverage should be able to reduce expenses with respect to revenues. In this instance, expenses parallel revenues, and it appears as though they've been lumping all their expenses into their unrestricted net assets, which include employee payment and facility expenses. I can't tell what they are exactly because they don't say, but I'd be curious to see how much the executives of these companies make."

On Nov. 23, 2002, in an article entitled "Corporate Culture, Big Pay Come to Non-Profit Testing," the *New York Times* reported: "the ETS, the not-for-profit that produces the AP, SAT and GRE exams, last year gave one time bonuses of as much as $366,000 to 15 of its officers. It went on to say that Gaston Caperton, president of the College Board, makes over $400,000 yearly while Kurt Landgraf, head of the ETS, makes $800,000 annually, which is more money than all but two college presidents earn (www.nytimes.com).

"A not-for-profit would be in vi-

(see Collusion, page 8)



Schuyler Van Horn

Mimicking the dandelions that cover fields in spring, AP grades blanket many transcripts.

College Eliminates Unnecessary Expenses, Protects Declining Endowment

Endowment Loses 7.5% of Previous Value, Falls $150 Million Since 2001

By Thomas Drescher
Staff Writer

A declining endowment has prompted numerous cutbacks in the College's budget over the past few months. Underlying the cutback decisions is a desire to eliminate unnecessary expenses and a commitment to protect the most essential expenditures for students, faculty and staff.

According to Robert Huth, vice president of administration and treasurer, the endowment is down approximately $150 million from the 2001 figure of $714 million. Huth acknowledges that the decline would be considerably more serious "were it not for the generous alumni, parents and friends who have been donating $15 to $20 million annually in support of the College."

Since last year, the endowment fund has lost 7.5 percent of its value and approximately six percent of it has been spent on the operating budget. The college's policy is to cap endowment spending at five percent, but recent financial struggles have forced this percentage up significantly. Now, said Huth, "the College is being careful with its expenses to reduce pressure on endowment spending and is seeking to lower the spending rate below five percent over a several year period."

This is where the budget cuts come in. Initially, the Executive Council obtained suggestions from faculty and department heads for minimizing expenditures, and from students, who were most concerned with the preservation of a need-blind admissions policy and full financial aid. After gathering these suggestions, the Council outlined several guiding principles for the looming budget cuts to protect the most important expenditures.

> The College is being careful with its expenses to reduce pressure on endowment spending.
>
> —Robert Huth, vice president of administration and treasurer

Since then, the College has been cutting costs in a variety of ways. Winter Term off-campus study courses were terminated, staff and faculty health care policies have been changed to reflect the current shaky financial situation, professors will receive new computers every four years, instead of every three, and faculty and staff raises will be marginally smaller than in the past. Additionally, the College Handbook will no longer be published and distributed to members of the college community but instead will only be posted online, the Snow Bowl shuttle will now only run on weekends in the winter, and there will be a reduction in funds for building maintenance and modernization.

Said Huth, "We have worked to become more efficient and reduce unnecessary expenses. We have protected the core academic program. When attrition occurs in staffing (retirement, relocation, etc.), we are looking to see whether or not jobs can be changed to reduce labor costs."

In the CCAL, for example, a new staff of student building managers will take over next year for Josh Dearborn, the current Student Center Manager. Dearborn's contract expires this month, and he is leaving for graduate school in the fall. Huth asserts that losses suffered by the endowment fund are "significantly less than those experienced by the equity markets. The endowment fund is invested in various asset classes such as equities; fixed income, hedge funds, and private equity. This provides diversity and reduces some of the investment risk."

Huth explained why it is so important to maintain the endowment: "the endowment subsidizes each student's education at Middlebury," said Huth, "and we need to ensure that it will be able to continue to do that indefinitely."

Besides reducing expenses, the College has expanded fundraising efforts for both capital and operating purposes. The Annual Fund next year has set a goal of over $10,000,000 (about $4,250 per student on average), explained Huth. Financial aid requests are on the rise, and overall investment returns are down. However, according to Huth, Middlebury's budget crunch is not all bad. Interest rates on the College's debt have declined, and the current economic situation has forced the College to reevaluate its budget, continue to support worthwhile expenditure, and eliminate unnecessary ones.

Salute to the Sun

Schuyler Van Horn

With petals flung wide open to receive the sun's light and warmth, *rows of colorful tulips brighten up the face of the College campus.*

Handbook Language Made More Accessible

(continued from page 3)

tions of pursuing various options available."

SAPWG also suggested the possibility of implementing a system of anonymous reporting. Such a system of reporting sexual assaults is currently used at schools similar to Middlebury such as Bowdoin, Colgate and Wellesley Colleges. If implemented here, SAPWG hopes that Middlebury would adopt a system which offers both an on-line and paper version of an anonymous report form. The intent is to offer a system of reporting that will not inhibit survivors of sexual assault from coming forward.

Anonymous reporting would provide another avenue for a victim to inform the College of an incident, without an investigation ensuing. The hope is that this would give Middlebury a more accurate estimation of the amount and type of sexual assault that occurs on campus.

However, there are still concerns about the credibility of such a system. "We want to take the time to consider the issue fully, with input from the community and in consultation with the College's attorney, to determine if we want to establish a 'pilot' program to test the use of an anonymous report or not," said Foley-Giorgio.

The College will investigate this type of system further next year as it pursues changes in the judicial process regarding sexual assault. The faculty must ratify such changes, and thus no change can be implemented before next year. Hanson has asked that either the Student Government Association or the Community Council host a community forum next fall to discuss anonymous reporting and the judicial system.

This will help the College determine if current concerns about the judicial process with regard to sexual assault are warranted. It will also help the College decide whether to move forward with the recommendations for judicial reform suggested by SAPWG. "Our expectation is that the community forum would give us valuable information and insights into the issues and would allow us to make better decisions," said Foley-Giorgio.

However, according to Foley-Giorgio, by approving the rewording of the Handbook policy, the SAPWG and the Community Council have accomplished what they hoped for during this academic year.

Community Council Reviews Social Houses

(continued from page 1)

house at home' mentality."

In a proposal presented to the Community Council, the ZOO membership addressed many of the issues and offered suggestions "to correct many of the wrongdoings that have plagued the house in the recent past." These suggestions included a letter of apology to the facilities staff, establishing formal guidelines to remove disruptive guests and increasing the membership's awareness of their actions.

The ZOO leadership believes that many of the problems also stem from miscommunication between members living in the house and the facilities staff that cleans it.

"Members don't want to make things difficult for facilities," Velez said. They simply "did not realize how disrespectful they were being." The house leadership believes that simple changes like inviting the facilities staff to a house meeting and installing white boards in the bathrooms "will be useful in enhancing communication for any needs or request from the facilities staff to the residents and from the house residents to the facilities staff as well," Velez continued.

If McCardell accepts the recommendations from the Community Council, ZOO will remain on provisional status for at least another semester.

Nevertheless, Velez promises the house will "face [the stipulations] head on and they will be addressed in a manner so that our house can move forward and become a stronger organization on campus, with even more to offer Middlebury College and the Middlebury community than before."

ADP was placed on provisional status last year. The Community Council required the house to increase respect for house property, comply with the College's hazing policy, establish an internal review board to discipline members with inappropriate behavior and to meet with the Council during the fall to discuss the house's progress.

Placing ADP on provisional status has greatly affected the way the house is run. "We've completely restructured the house," said ADP President Dan Visel '03. "This didn't really happen overnight and it will continue to be a process, coming from the top down. We're very proud of what we have been able to accomplish."

> The key for us is to continue to work towards the ideals that the social house system puts forth. I think that on-campus social events are an important part of the College's social life.
>
> —Robert Wainwright '03, former ADP president

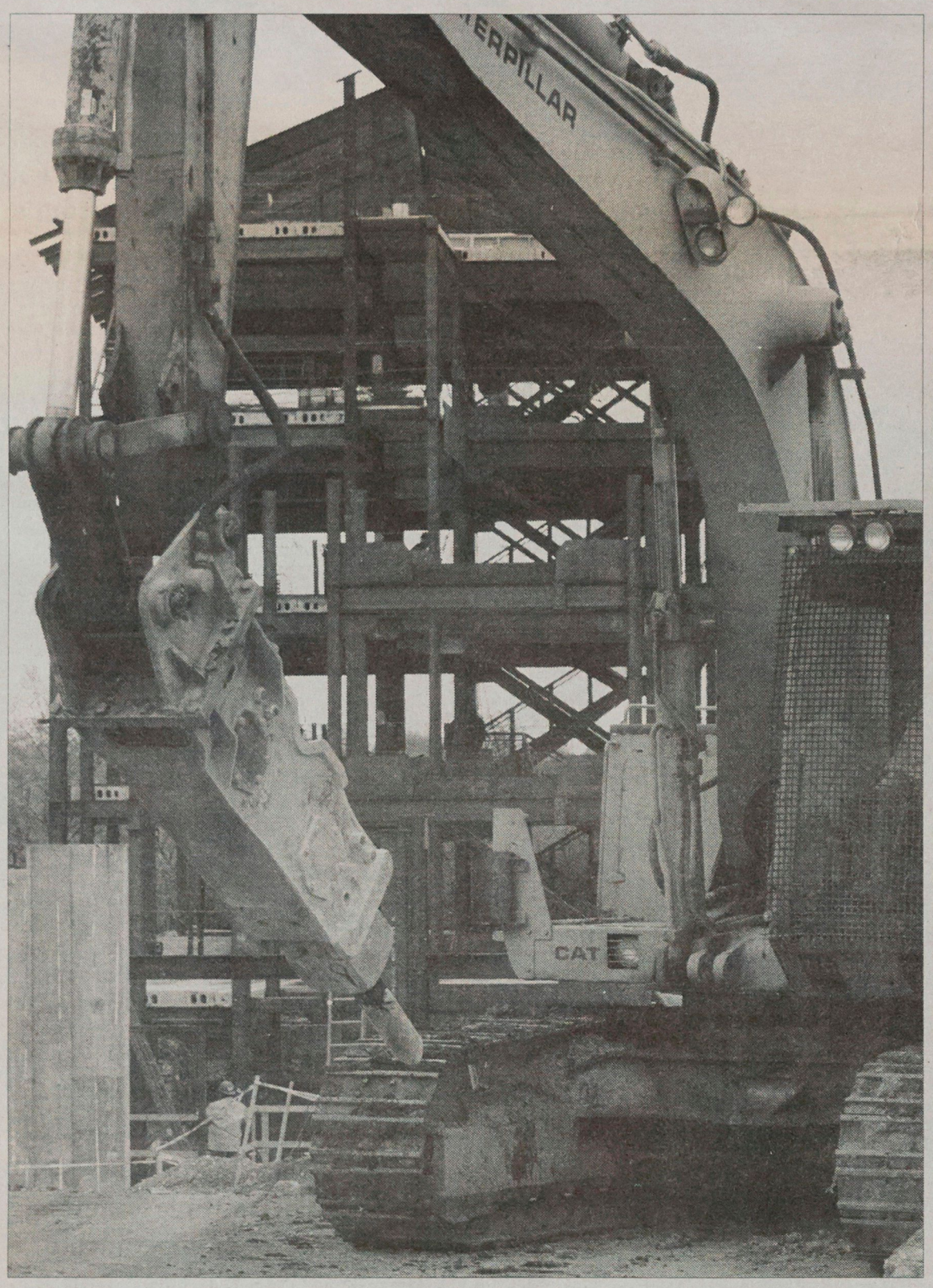
Previous ADP President, Bob Wainwright '03 stated "this year, while ADP was on probation, our house leadership focused on reducing dorm damage and improving our membership's general respect for the house. The results of our probation have all been positive. Dorm damage has been greatly reduced and the general upkeep of the house has been excellent."

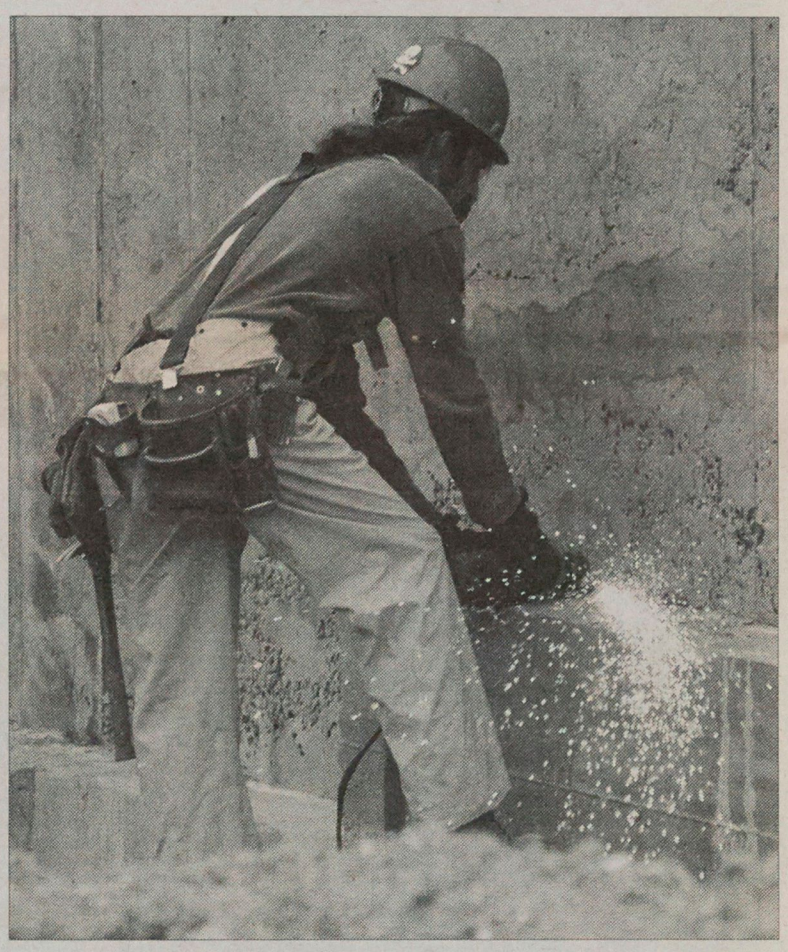
The Council had threatened to recommend the house be discontinued if all of the stipulations were not met.

This year, however, the Council recommended continuing ADP.

"The key for us is to continue to work towards the ideals that the social house system puts forth," Wainwright said. "I think that safe on-campus social events are an important element of the social house system and an important part of the College's so-

Library and Technology Center and Atwater Construction Projects Forge Ahead





Construction on one of the two new Atwater Commons dormitories is well under way. The main structure of the building (above) is almost complete. Atwater will be the College's second fully articulated commons, complete with two additional residence halls and a dining hall set back in the forest near Allen Hall.

Middlebury's new state-of-the-art Library and Technology Center (LATC) is starting to take shape. The new facility is slated to be ready in time for the beginning of the 2004-2005 academic year. The College has set aside about $40 million for the project.

Photographs by Vlad Lodoaba/
Photo Editor

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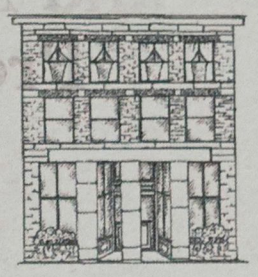

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Big sister wanted to work with our daughter Kate this summer. She is a bright and happy 9-year-old with physical disabilities and hearing loss. Physician's family in beautiful Chipman Park (bordering campus). Assist with typical summertime kid stuff: trips to the pool and library, craft projects, playdates with friends, etc. 15-30 hours per week. $12 per hour. Must have a driver's license. Familiarity with American Sign Language a big plus but not a prerequisite. Call David (388-3505) or Ellen (388-2494) McKay. Email demckay@sover.net

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PALANA Repositions Itself in Carr Hall

(continued from page 3)

class graduate when she gets back. "Experience is what you carry with you," she added. De Léon referred the four students — Anisa Gamble, Tiffany Holmes, Maika Prewitt and Ingrid Johnson, all class of 2003 — who died in a car accident and in whose memory the Angels Award was established. The Angels "are with us and constantly give us hope" and remind us of the positive things we still have in life, she said.

Students said that De Léon's advice echoed in their minds throughout their academic careers. "When you graduate, your name is on that diploma, so work for it," De Léon had told them. "If we don't have obstacles, we have no motivation," she advised. "The strength you gain at Middlebury, you take it everywhere."

Both Nesbitt and Roman Graf, associate provost for institutional diversity, expressed their enthusiasm for moving the PALANA Center's location to Carr Hall at the start of next year. Graf noted that it was the first order of business he wanted to address when he took office.

Nesbitt remarked, "Special things go on in the building — we're excited at being in a location more central." He noted that the current Fletcher House "does not facilitate as much contact with Cook Commons as we'd like."

Graf explained that the PALANA Center, which is now considered "a fringe group," will have the opportunity to play a more involved role in the community.

Running Wild

Schuyler Van Horn

Laughing and dancing in time to the music of the Route 7 Ramblers, *a young fan gleefully races in front of the stage during the May Day festivities last Friday in Kenyon Arena.*

Posse I Boasts Academic Excellence, Leadership

(continued from page 1)

matched the College's goals for institutional diversity.

Posse I's journey to this pivotal moment began long before its members' matriculation at Middlebury. It started in the Fall of 1998 when a group of 400-plus Posse hopefuls gathered in New York City for a series of preliminary interviews and workshops with the Foundation. All were students at New York public schools where they had demonstrated superior academic and leadership skills, and all were looking for the opportunity to join a "multicultural team" destined for one of 17 highly selective colleges and universities.

Paula Yepes '03 remembers this first round vividly. "We all had to form a huge circle and go around saying one word to describe ourselves. Everyone was throwing out SAT words," she explains. She didn't think she would be chosen to move onto the second phase of the selection process — the individual interview. Not only was she invited back for a one-on-one interview, but she ultimately found herself in the final group of 20 scholarship candidates.

The remaining stage of recruitment consisted of a workshop involving Posse staff members, Middlebury representatives and the 20 finalists. "After the 20-person interview, I burst out crying," Yepes recalls. "I wasn't upset, it was just that the people [I met at the workshop] were so valuable. I was so happy."

The College's Admissions Office worked with the Posse Foundation to whittle the remaining group down to a team of 10 Posse Scholars.

After a 34-week program of leadership, cross-cultural communication and academic excellence workshops, Posse I was ready to make the move from the buzzing metropolis of the Big Apple to the sleepy College on the Hill.

As Adam Cohen '03 notes, the transition was not an easy one. He admits thinking that his weekly meetings with Clookey, Posse I's mentor, were not necessary. "I'm totally fine," he remembers saying to himself. "She should spend her time with students who actually have problems." Soon, however, he realized what an important role Clookey played in his life at the College. "I vented about the cold reaction I received from some of my Battell hallmates, about getting a bad quiz grade in philosophy even though I did all the reading, about my dad being disappointed with my first college paper," he says.

"Each person has his or her own transition to make," Clookey explains. "Each person has to grow up. They have all done it, and it's a beautiful thing."

Yepes also points to Clookey as a pillar of strength. "I don't know where I would be if it weren't for her," she affirms. "She understands every challenge and has seen me grow."

Perhaps the greatest challenge to face Middlebury's inaugural Posse was overcoming the grief born from the loss of Tiffany Holmes during their first year at the College. "It was exceptionally painful for them," Schoenfeld recalls. The remaining nine members, along with Clookey, pulled through the experience thanks to support from one another. "When you work through grief together, walls have to come down," Clookey notes.

Middlebury's rigorous academic program also put Posse I to the test. "Academics were my biggest challenge," says Yepes. "I felt enormous pressure because I wanted to excel. I didn't understand why I had to try so hard when other people got good grades so much more easily."

Constantly striving for excellence in and out of the classroom, Posse I has been a visible force since its arrival on campus. "Apathy is not a word associated with this group of students," said Clookey. "One of their greatest challenges is to give themselves a break sometimes." Each member of Posse I brings something different to the table. Although all based out of New York, they boast roots in France, Russia, Colombia and Korea. Their academic interests are as varied as their backgrounds and include theater, Japanese, political science, French, philosophy and art history.

Over the course of the past four years, Yepes, Cohen and their fellow Posse members — Angela Boulart, Lollinez GuadalupePerez, Hosam Mekdad, Oksana Romina, Jason Spiegler, Damian Washington and Sara Yun — have come to redefine what it means to be a Middlebury student. Schoenfeld maintains, "Posse will have failed if Posse members leave without feeling like Middlebury students." But according to Cohen, his Middlebury circle — one that extends far beyond his Posse — has become "like a third parent."

"It is good to notice a shift in 'affiliation' of the students from an initial sense of belonging to Posse to a final identification with the rest of the College community," said Associate Provost for Institutional Diversity Roman Graf.

"We are all very individual," notes Yepes. "But we know we have each others' backs."

As Posse I members stand on the threshold of new challenges, they leave the College knowing that they have set an example for subsequent Posses with their legacy of strong academic achievement and their dedication to affecting change.

"I am not astounded by their success," Clookey explains on the eve of their graduation, "but I delight in it." She turns her eyes from the nine self-portraits and says, "They are one of the special things in my career, and I am really feeling it for them right now."

Collusion Between Corporate World and America's Colleges

(continued from page 4)

olation of its tax-exempt status if it was found to be cashing out large portions of its expenses in the form of executive bonuses," said Gordon. "What they should be doing is using their excess revenue to cut costs, thereby allowing them to lower the fees of the tests they provide."

The AP currently costs $80 per test, the highest figure in the test's history. Given that 1.5 million APs were administered last year, the College Board made approximately $120 million on AP tests alone last year.

Davis added, "It's an expensive test. One of our chief concerns regarding the AP is that it's not equally available to all U.S. students."

On condition of anonymity, one of the Princeton Review's highest-ranking Master Tutor's, concluded "The College Board's a non-profit, but you should see where they work. Beautiful golf course, everything. It's like a country club." Princeton Review Master Tutors charge $250/hour for their services and knowledge.

A Flawed Paradigm?

The Advanced Placement program set a precedent for collusion between the corporate world and America's colleges which has not only persisted but flourished. Few doubt that the College Board has succeeded in consolidating America's educational system, and in promoting diversity for America's students.

The free reign and burgeoning power awarded the College Board within today's educational structure, however, should and must spark a discourse among colleges nationwide. "The SAT is no longer the innocent little test it was," stated Schoenfeld.

Indeed, while the college spends time defining what a Middlebury diploma truly means, an equally important question to ask is: what role must America's colleges play in regulating the power and influence of the College Board? "If it were to be done, that's something which I hope is done in unison, amongst all colleges," opined Schine. Meanwhile, the weight colleges award APs with respect to admissions perpetuates the AP problem. "The argument then translates back to tacit support for the College Board," noted Schoenfeld, "and consequently back to the institution itself."

PUBLIC SAFETY LOG

Date	Time	Incident	Category	Location	Disposition
4/28/03	11:57 p.m.	Theft	Shoulder Bag	Middlebury College Campus	No Suspects
4/29/03	11:20 a.m.	Theft	Skis/Boots/Poles	T Lot	No Suspects
5/1/03	1:50 a.m.	Drug Violation	Paraphernalia/Marijuana	Forest	Referred to Commons Dean
5/2/03	12:45 a.m.	Theft	Jacket	Proctor	No Suspects
5/3/03	2:25 a.m.	Vandalism		Outside	Case Closed
5/4/03	1:22 a.m.	Drug Violation	Marijuana	Battell	Referred to Commons Dean
5/4/03	2:30 a.m.	Burglary		Hadley	No Suspects
5/4/03	5:15 p.m.	Theft	Laptop Computer	LaForce	MPD

Representative Bernie Sanders Brings AIDS Awareness to College

By Jon White
Special Contributor

Speaking Friday evening in Dana Auditorium, Vermont's Independent Representative, Congressman Bernie Sanders, helped launch the Middlebury Global AIDS Forum.

Sanders told the audience, "The AIDS crisis…is one of the most important concerns facing humanity as we move into the 21st century." He said that he was "glad" students were holding a forum on the subject because AIDS, he said, is "a huge, huge issue in terms of the number of people affected."

Sanders' speech highlighted the role of the media in shaping public awareness of HIV/AIDS, the ability of the United States government to work towards alleviating the crisis, as well as the much needed cooperation of pharmaceutical companies in helping to make medicine available. Sanders criticized all three bodies — the media, government and drug companies — for not doing enough to fight the pandemic.

Sanders emphasized the media's capability to decide "what is important in the first place, and what is not important." He said that President George W. Bush's landing on the U.S.S. Lincoln aircraft carrier last week claimed headlines when, in reality, more pressing matters beg front-page attention. He questioned whether the media has become "bored" with reporting on AIDS and he lamented the increasing corporate control of news organizations. It is now up to the public, he said, to determine what issues are important.

Sanders cited a series of sobering statistics on the HIV/AIDS pandemic. 8,500 people each day die due to AIDS and five million people were infected with HIV last year.

"No part of the world knows the devastation of HIV/AIDS more than sub-Saharan Africa" he asserted, noting that there, 8.8 percent of the adult population is infected. Sanders also affirmed that the disease is spreading rapidly in a number of other regions, including India, Eastern Europe, the Caribbean, China and Russia.

Turning to his second point — the role of the government in responding to the pandemic — Sanders said that while the HIV/AIDS crisis has leveled off in the United States over the past decade, Washington's response to the crisis, particularly in its nascent stage in the 1980s, has been shocking.

Before the audience gathered in Dana, Sanders proclaimed: "The failure of U.S. leadership, as well as political leadership around the world, at the outset of this crisis was blatant and unforgivable. Ignorance, denial and a stark homophobia squandered our chance to face up to the threat." Silence, he continued, is no way to deal with any threat to civil society, be it the AIDS crisis in the 1980s in the United States, or the recent outbreak of SARS (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome) in China.

There is reason for hope despite Washington's record and the rampant surge of the disease around the globe. Sanders said that medical treatments have caused AIDS deaths in the United States to drop from approximately 40,000 each year to a figure closer to 15,000. He also stated that last week saw new AIDS legislation passed in Congress with Bush's backing. The legislation will contribute $15 billion to combat the disease worldwide. "Don't cheer yet," he warned, because authorization in Congress does not always amount to financial appropriation. He said that the president's upcoming fiscal year budget calls for only a $1.7 billion commitment to HIV/AIDS.

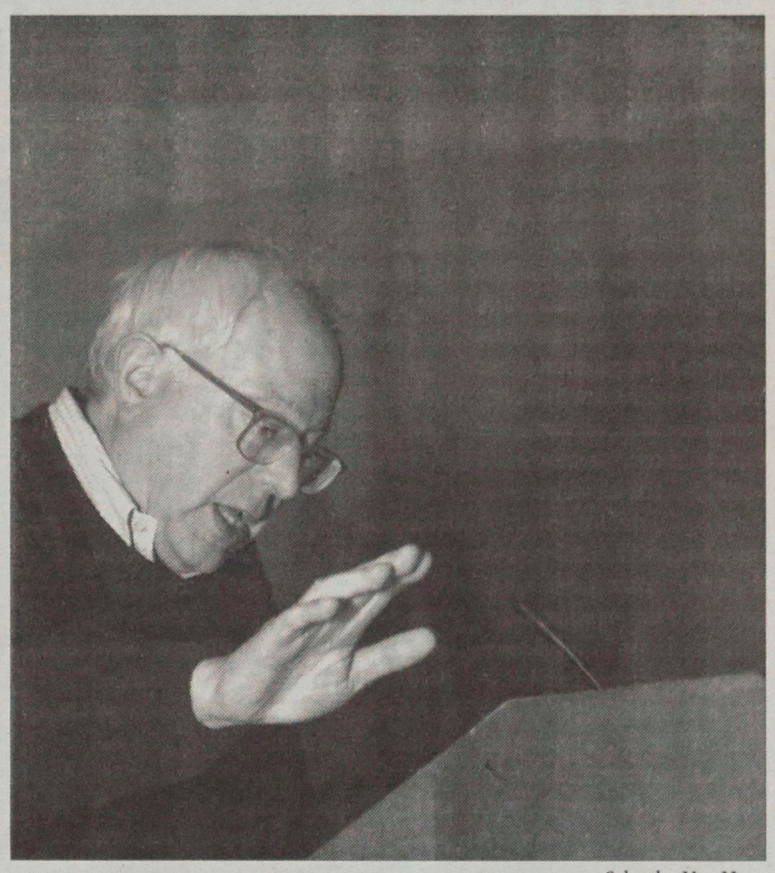
Finally, Sanders criticized drug companies for trying to turn a profit rather than acting with morality to make HIV/AIDS therapy available to all. The cost of medical treatment is prohibitive for most HIV/AIDS sufferers, he confirmed.

Sanders approached the topic of pharmacuetical companies' role in the fight against HIV/AIDS with deep skepticism, noting the pharmecuetical industry is this nation's most prosperous. He used an example of a drug treatment offered by Glaxo-Smith. Glaxo recently dropped the price of this HIV/AIDS medicine to make it more readily available, though Sanders cautioned that this gesture of seeming goodwill was motivated in part by the distribution of the same therapy by international drug companies at much lower rates than Glaxo's.

A fundamental moral issue arises Sanders explained. He said, "The right we must uphold is the right of every human being to access to the medicines which can save his or her life." Sanders also recommended that for success in the fight against HIV/AIDS, developing nations need to be relieved of massive debts they owe to institutions like the World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF) so that those governments might use funds for pressing domestic concerns like HIV/AIDS, hunger and education.

He concluded by urging the audience to demand that Washington establish "a better set of national priorities," and to make HIV/AIDS prevention one such priority.

Simon Isaacs '03.5, organizer of this weekend's Middlebury Global AIDS Forum, said that Sanders was an appropriate speaker to launch the AIDS forum because of his Capitol Hill background. Isaacs said that the U.S. government has the ability to combat the pandemic. Our government, he said, "has the fiscal and legislative powers to mobilize the necessary resources, to pass the necessary laws and to persuade the necessary actors to turn the tide on this pandemic." AIDS, he said, is a highly politicized issue and bringing Sanders to Middlebury demonstrated this fact.



Schuyler Van Horn

Speaking in Dana Auditorium on Friday, Bernie Sanders educated the College on the role of government in managing the fight against AIDS.

Humane Society Adopt-a-thon Finds Pets New Homes

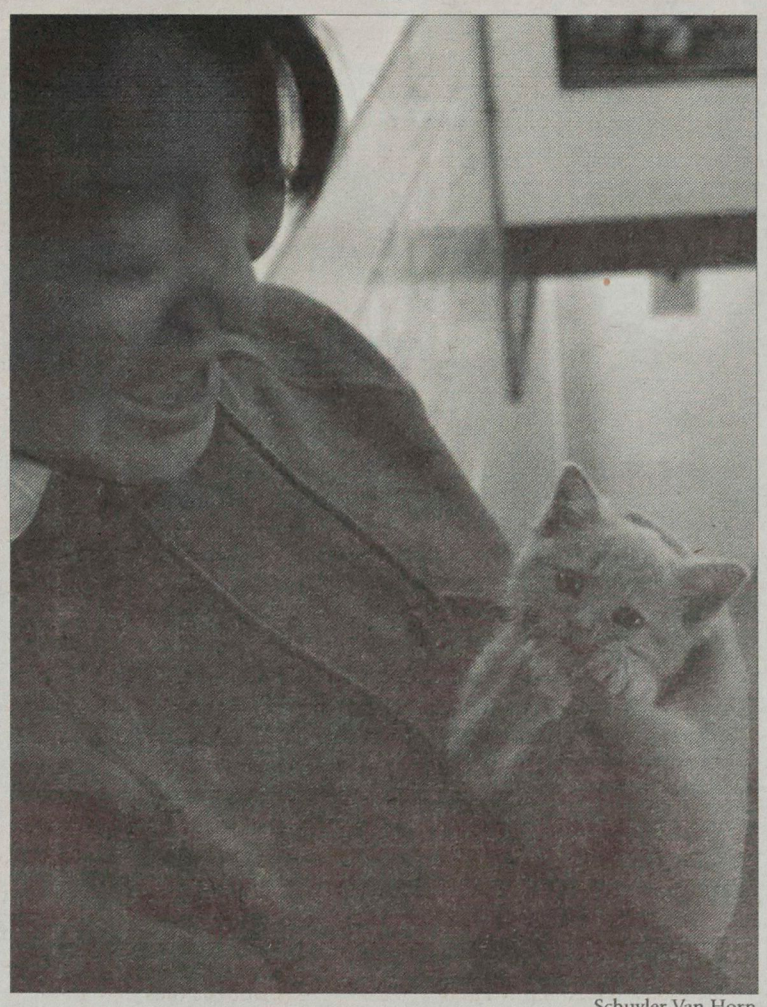
By Elizabeth Braunstein
Staff Writer

Last weekend, the Addison County Humane Society (ACHS) held its first adopt-a-thon, an event conducted annually by the National Humane Society to promote cat and dog adoption. The 24-year-old non-profit organization maintains a mission of being "dedicated to fostering the humane treatment of animals in Addison County," said ACHS Shelter Manager Sara Kurtz.

Primarily, the Humane Society operates a shelter at which stray animals are cared for until a new family can be found for them. "We try and match up an animal with the family as best as we can. If a family comes in and says they work all the time, a puppy may not be the best option. In the end, we make the match for both the needs of the animal and family," said Kurtz.

Additionally, the shelter refuses to euthanize animals that are not adopted, which has led, in particular, to an overabundance of cats at the shelter.

Kurtz explained, "Our capacity for cats is around 20 but we have somewhere around 60 cats and some have been here for a while." This past weekend, only eight animals were adopted. "Come and adopt," Kurtz stressed, revealing the most effective way members of the community could help out.



Schuyler Van Horn

Nancy Sul '03 plays with one of 60 cats currently in the shelter. Only eight animals were adopted during the Adopt-a-thon.

As part of the adoption procedure, the ACHS requires new families to spay or neuter their new pet. The procedure is part of the adoption cost and families can have it done with their veterinarians for a reduced fee. This simple procedure is strongly recommended by the ACHS for all animals in order to reduce the population of homeless animals in the community.

The ACHS also promotes animal welfare, provides community resources and enhances the connection between people and animals. Programs range from animal welfare educational programs to teaching children at school how to properly take care of their pets. The ACHS also responds to complaints of cruelty and neglect within the Addison County community.

> We try and match up an animal with the family as best as we can. If a family comes in and says they work wll the time, a puppy may not be best the best option.
>
> — Sara Kurtz, Shelter Manager of the Addison County Humane Society

Because the ACHS is a non-profit organization, the shelter relies heavily on volunteers, especially from Middlebury College, and private and member donations. With a total of 400 members reached this past December, its new goal is to reach 450 members by December 2003.

Local businesses also contribute to the success of the ACHS by donating shares of their profits. Neil and Ottos' Pizza donates proceeds from one nights' sales each month to the shelter while Middlebury Discount Beverage collects empty bottles and donates the returned deposits to the ACHS.

Volunteer opportunities for students at the shelter include working at the front desk, collecting and distributing "Dog Banks" around the community, posting flyers, taking pets to nursing homes and hospitals for pet therapy, training dogs and picking up and delivering cat and dog food.

"It's a lot of fun. I take the dogs on walks and play with the cats and kittens, giving the animals attention as they wait to find a new home," said first-year Sam Padgett, a regular volunteer.

Upcoming events include the ACHS Annual Dinner at the Vergennes Opera House on June 1, a tag sale on June 7, Woofstock on August 23 and the Annual ACHS Membership meeting on September 15.

To volunteer, become a member or get more information about adoption, contact the Addison County Humane Society at (802) 388-1100 or visit its Web site at www.addisonhumane.org.

BROOKLYN ➡ RURAL REALITIES ⬅ MIDDLEBURY

By Crystal Belle
Staff Writer

If you have any insight into my personality, you should know of my innate obsession with shoes. From Prada to Parade, from Nike to Nine West, I love shoes. I can't think of what life would be like without my 72 pairs of shoes. Yes, just say it: oxygen is to life as shoes are to me — necessary for survival! My coming from the very cosmopolitan New York City is of course essential to understanding my fervent fixation with foot coverings.

While walking the crowded sidewalks of New York, one sees a range of shoes: sneakers, pumps, platforms, flip-flops, stilettos, cowboy boots — anything you can imagine in all sizes, shapes, colors and designers. This was my environment all of my life, until I arrived in Vermont. Suddenly, clogs, hiking boots, snow boots, skis and Birkenstock sandals surrounded me.

This was a living nightmare, as there was no way for me to wear my fashionista shoes in a place like Vermont, where winter practically begins in September. Shortly after my arrival freshman year, there was snow on the ground — S-N-O-W! I couldn't believe my eyes. I wondered how I could possibly wear my shoes while stepping into over four inches of snow. The heels of my dress-boots weren't made for this type of life-style, neither were my over-priced Nikes. There was no way this city gal was willing to go from Banana Republic to Birkenstock sandals in 40 degree weather. That never was and was never going to be my style. So I bet you are wondering what I have been doing these past three years?

You got it, I wear my shoes anyway. Even when 12 inches of snow blankets the ground, I continue to sport my New York necessities. Because of my stubbornness to reform to any form of Vermont fashion, if you can in fact call it that, I have suffered the daily wiping-of-shoe-in-bathroom during the winter season to remove the ugly snow prints left on my stylish shoes.

Is it worth it? Of course it is. Many often look at my shoes and consider me absolutely insane and ridiculous. They come up with questions like: "Do you think you are in New York?" or "Crystal, are you really wearing turquoise dress boots in the midst of a snow storm?" I look them straight in the eye and respond "yes" with pride, passion and pizzazz.

My shoes are directly connected to my identity and help me maintain my connection to New York while facing the rural realities of Vermont. My shoes remind me of the fact that I don't really live here and am simply spending a few years of my life in the middle of nowhere. It is not as if I can rely on Glass Bead Game or Old Mountain Thyme for my vital shoe habit. Therefore, I transport my baby divas 270 miles back and forth,

Green Up Day Rids Vermont of Litter

By Dan Polifka
Staff Writer

One of the more intriguing environmental initiatives undertaken by the Green Mountain State, Green Up Vermont sent tens of thousands of volunteers out to their local roads last Saturday to remove trash, debris and large items such as tires and sheet metal.

"Volunteers are given, through their town, gloves, big green bags and free disposal of trash," explained Laura Routh, head of the Addison County Solid Waste Management District. Participants take these large bags out to the roadsides and pick up whatever they can find.

The event, held annually on the first Saturday in May, is in its 33rd year and is going as strong as ever, according to Routh. Every one of the state's 14 counties is involved in some way. Addison County had participation from 19 towns — the whole county excluding Salisbury, Bristol, Hancock and Granville.

According to its Web site, the Green Up program is run by two part-time employees in Montpelier with a total overhead of $25,000, a remarkably low figure for a program that collects over 30,000 bags of trash annually. Considering the expense of other states' "Adopt a Highway" programs, under one dollar per bag of trash removed is an economical way to strip roads of large amounts of garbage.

Many believe, however, that the value of this program cannot be measured in dollars and cents. "This really sticks with you all year long," said Suzy Roorda, the director of the Parks and Recreation Department in New Haven. "You really feel inclined to pull over whenever you are driving to pick up trash. It is really remarkable."

Money for bags and gloves for Green Up day is donated by 11 companies, ranging from Coca-Cola to the Vermont Country Store to News Channel Five. The sponsorship manages to keep these essential clean-up items affordable for the state and provides good publicity and an opportunity to give back to the community.

One of the great features of the day, according to those in attendance, was that people of all ages and hometowns participated. "It was really a total community project. The school kids are really the best, though. They just get totally into it and provide so much energy, not to mention getting all the parents out. It's really, really great," remarked Roorda.

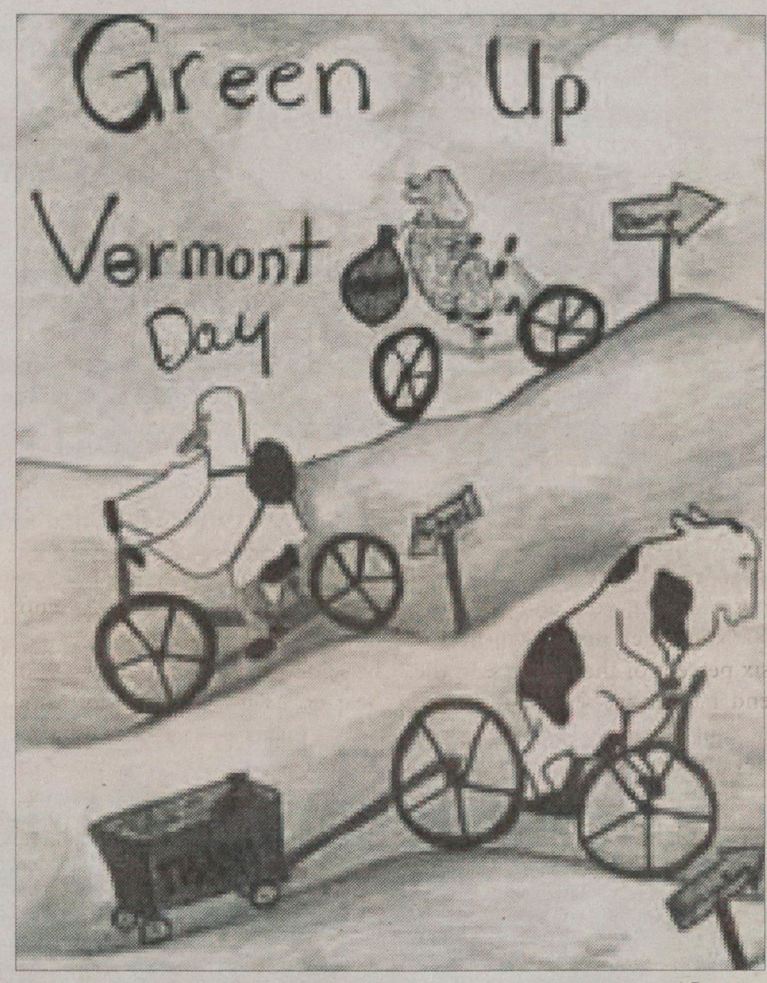
> You really feel inclined to pull over whenever you are driving to pick up trash. It is really remarkable.
>
> — Suzy Roorda, Director of the New Haven Parks and Recreation Department

The Middlebury clean up effort was coordinated by town resident Peg Martin. "I would say it was a good turnout. I know in a lot of other towns they have a central meeting place, and we don't, so it is hard to say exactly how many people showed up," Martin said. "We did fill three trucks and then some, though. And the Rotary Club did a good job getting people out."

For town residents, Otter Creek Bakery held a hamburger and hot dog cookout for anyone who came in with a bag of trash, to give work-

(see Working, page 12)

Schuyler Van Horn
Addison Volunteers collected between 10 and 16 tons of loose litter.



Courtesy
Winning Poster celebrates Green Up Day and Vermont.

N.H.'s Famous Face Comes Crashing Down

Courtesy
The Old Man of The Mountain, a prominent granite profile and celebrated symbol of New Hampshire, fell from its place in Franconia, N.H., this weekend after watching over the White Mountains for 30,000 years.

By Kelsey Rinehart
Local News Editor

Between Friday night and Saturday morning in Franconia, N.H., the Old Man of the Mountain finally fell to his doom. The rugged but renowned granite profile that has attracted tourists and become a symbol of New Hampshire crumbled away from a cliff overlooking the White Mountains.

In Nathaniel Hawthorne's story "The Great Stone Face," from his "Twice Told Tales," he wrote, "It seemed as if an enormous giant, or Titan, had sculptured his own likeness on the precipice."

The loss of this 30,000 year-old natural formation, which has been featured in the art, folklore and poetry of New England for centuries and is depicted on the state's quarters and license plates, comes as a surprise to all.

No one reported hearing or seeing the fall of the massive rock structure, and no foul play is suspected. Donald Bliss, the state's director of emergency management, said that the face, which had been held together with cables, anchoring spikes and even epoxy glue, had been in danger of collapsing for years, and that no one could name a specific reason for the recent fall.

David Schaffer, Franconia's town moderator, remarked, "It just died of old age, of natural causes. I went up to see it this morning. There's nothing left. It just totally, totally came down."

The College Strikes a Chord with Act 250

Part three in a three-part series on Vermont's 30-year-old land use law

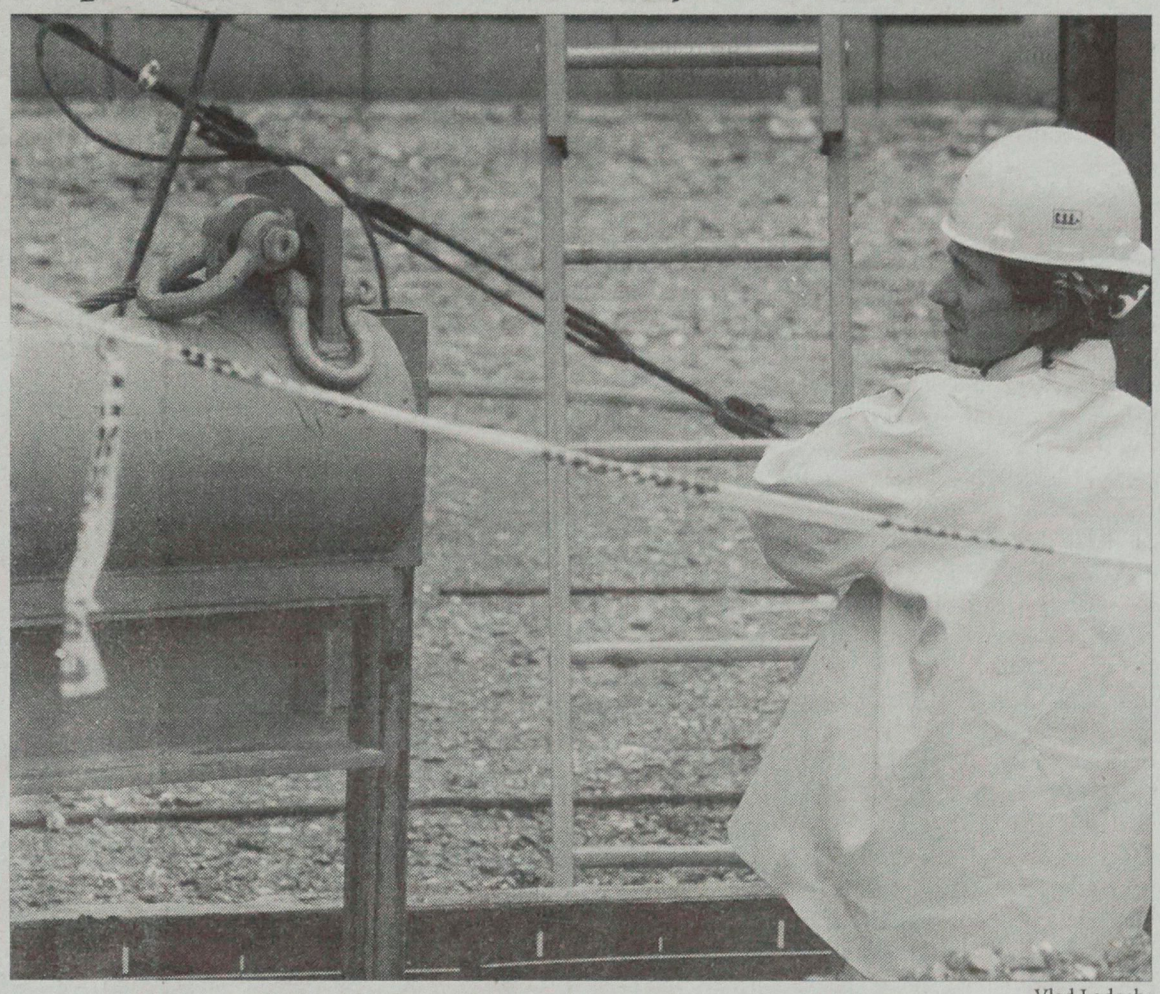
By Kelsey Rinehart
Local News Editor

Walking around campus these days, students, faculty, staff and visitors are surrounded by monstrous dirt heaps and noisy bulldozers. Arching cranes and iron skeletons of buildings loom around us, posing as permanent fixtures of the Green Mountain skyline. We can't help but notice the many construction projects, but we seldom wonder why the

PART THREE
OF A
THREE-PART SERIES

College has the right to build another library here and parking lot there. Act 250, Vermont's 30-year-old land use law, plays a part in the College's continual development of its facilities because it is the ultimate authority on what can and can't be built.

A common perception is that facilities planners, because of their ever-present construction projects, have butted heads with Act 250 many times. Tom McGinn, project manager of facilities management for the College, assures that this is not the case, and says that he fully supports Act 250 and everything it has done for Vermont. "I think Act 250 has been a really good thing for Vermont," he remarked in an interview with *The Middlebury Campus*. "When you look at the statistics, they turn down five or six percent of the projects. In the end I think it's very fair. To the best of my knowledge, we were never denied a permit by Act 250."



Vlad Lodoaba

Atwater Commons construction proceeds despite recent wet weather. The new dorms and dining facilities are expected to be ready by next year.

> We weren't about to say, 'Oh well, what's a little wetland? Let's go ahead. This project's important to us. We'll just ram our way through here.' That's not how the College operates.
>
> — Tom McGinn, project manager of Middlebury College facilities management

McGinn noted that the projects that the College plans rarely receive the kind of scathing opposition that many business owners looking to expand face. "We're not a developer that's coming in. We're not building Wal-Marts or subdivisions," he pointed out.

Act 250 has come into play many times in the College's recent projects. McGinn said that the College received Act 250 permits for the Ross Commons expansion, the recycling center, the library project, parking lots and the Atwater Commons additions. He stressed, however, that where problems arise — and are solved — is before Act 250. McGinn said, "Where the biggest impact seems to be is on the town, by the nature of where the buildings have gone lately, because they're on the edge of the campus. The town has a lot of concerns about the traffic [and] noise or the impact of construction on the town services and roads. But once we get through the town approval, there isn't really an issue with Act 250, per say."

Some of the frustration behind Act 250 and part of the reason people are calling for reform may have to do with the actual hearing itself, which McGinn said was complex and all-inclusive. "I've heard several complaints from people outside the College who have to go for an Act 250 permit," he said, noting that at the Act 250 hearing, "They want you to bring all these prepared plans and specifications, and everything has to be done. Then there's a chance that [the project] will get turned down. That person would have wasted all that money on designing things and getting things ready." The College's extensive experience with development and construction projects means that facilities planners know how to handle Act 250. "We come prepared, and go there willing to sit and answer whatever questions people have," McGinn said. "We see what issues the neighbors and the abutters have, and we try to be good neighbors and modify the project to accommodate the people's concerns." Unfortunately for facilities planners, McGinn pointed out, "Sometimes all it comes down to is the 'not in my backyard' thing, no matter what it is."

When library construction was being discussed, several Middlebury residents came to the final hearing, by the District Nine Environmental Commission, to voice their concerns. The Middlebury Planning Commission had already approved the project, but the issue of relocating houses on South, Weybridge, Shannon, and South Main streets became a point of contention. At this point, McGinn noted, "Act 250 said, 'We're going to take a recess here, and we would like the College and the neighbors and historic preservation to work out a solution that everybody can get on board with, and then we'll reconvene the hearing.'" The College then made concessions to the residents, among them, South St. resident Alya Baker, whose home bordered two proposed lots. McGinn said, "I think Act 250 does a good job of mediating what the disputes are."

The College has been consistent in its desire to ameliorate tensions between angry neighbors and facilities planners. In the summer of 2001, in demolishing the 85,000-square-foot science center on Storrs Ave., the College used remote control devices to dismantle the building from the inside out, hoping to lessen the noise and dust, inevitabilities on a construction site, that would bother nearby residents.

Another component of the Act 250 process that McGinn says is specific to the College its relationship with the division of historic preservation. "That has come into play, especially on the library, with the impact on Old Stone Row, and moving those historic houses." McGinn points out that, without Act 250, the picture could be very different. "The College could have decided, 'Well let's just move these houses. We don't need Act 250 approval to do that. You can do whatever you want, despite the fact that it's a historic structure.' But because it's part of our Act 250 application, historic preservation has a right to step in and be consulted on," he said.

As far as reforms to Act 250, McGinn said, "I don't think it's really going to make a difference. We seem to encounter and then resolve most of our issues on the local level, before we get to Act 250."

In one instance, the College took a wrong turn with its construction. During beginning preliminary construction of a new parking lot in the Ridgeline development on the south side of Rt. 125, the College accidentally filled in a fragile Class Three Wetland. McGinn remarked, "That was a disaster. The College made a mistake. Inadvertently, the College deposited some fill material in a wetland. We were at Act 250 — we had already been approved by the town — and we found out about it. So we pulled our Act 250 permit applications, and then had to go back to the Agency of Natural Resources and work out a plan to mitigate what we did and restore what we had filled in. It delayed things by about a year." McGinn said that the College deeply regretted its error, but remarked, "But again, we recognized that we made a mistake and corrected it at our expense. We weren't about to say, 'Oh well, what's a little wetland. Let's go ahead. This project's important to us. We'll just ram our way through here.' That's not how the College operates."

On the College's Web site, the Project Review Committee's introduction to its Guiding Principles states, "The concepts of environmental design and sustainability are being applied similarly to buildings, landscapes, manufacturing processes, communities and academia. By carrying forward the traditions of the past and drawing upon the best from the present, we can design buildings and landscapes that will better serve the needs of those who live, learn and work within them." The subsequent principles serve to elucidate the ideals behind the cranes and bulldozers. One states, "Whereas the College recognizes its potential for the academy to be a leader, it understands the importance of embodying these concepts into all its buildings and landscapes."

It Could be Law

Profile of a Vermont Bill

By Peter Faroni
Staff Writer

Representative Betty Nuovo (D-Middlebury) has proposed a bill to the State House of Representatives to increase the refund on cans and bottles from five to 10 cents. On a recent walk near her home, Nuovo was inspired to act. "The other day, just on a half-mile of the road I live on, I picked up a dollar's worth of bottles," she said. "They are all over the place, because nobody's picking them up. Nobody's bothering to bring them back because they're five cents."

Cathy Stacy, administrator for the Vermont Beverage Container Law for the state's Solid Waste Division, noted that Vermonters have been returning cans and bottles for deposits at the same rate they did in 1972 when the law was first passed. "It hasn't changed that much," she said, but also noted there are many new beverages not covered by the bottle law.

The bill proposed by Nuovo, which has garnered support from many fellow lawmakers, would not only increase the return on the current recyclables, but would also add new containers to the list of those eligible for refunds, including wine, juice, iced tea and Snapple bottles.

Advocates for a higher deposit argue that inflation alone since 1972 justifies an increase from a nickel to a dime. Furthermore, a higher payback for returning bottles and cans would provide an incentive to keep the roads cleaner, supporters say, and would benefit the state's economy. A pristine environment helps tourism and recycling decreases the expense of landfills.

Several lawmakers, as well as beverage distributors and grocers, have expressed their opposition to the proposed bill. They point to the fact that the consumer would pay for the increase in the deposit when purchasing the product, the way the current five-cent deposit works. Both beverage distributors and grocers argue that a deposit increase would hurt their businesses and consumers. They maintain that better curbside recycling is the answer.

Grocers oppose the increase because they say it will drive more business across Vermont borders. New Hampshire doesn't have any deposit on bottles and cans, while both New York and Massachusetts have a nickel deposit. If Vermont's deposit increased to a dime, grocers fear loss of business to those states.

Legislative supporters of the deposit increase counter that argument by noting that Vermonters get their money back when they return the cans and bottles. Consumers then shouldn't have a financial incentive to buy outside

(see New Bill, page 13)

MS and CF Walks: Middlebury Steps Out to Lend a Helping Foot

By Megan O'Keefe
Assistant Local News Editor

This weekend, Middlebury residents and College students cast aside their sandals and laced up their sneakers for a good cause. Teaming up to raise money for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society (NMSS) and the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation (CFF), participants in Saturday's Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Walk and Sunday's Cystic Fibrosis (CF) Great Strides Walk crossed Middlebury and collected thousands of dollars in pledge contributions.

The MS Walk was held on Saturday, beginning at 9 a.m. from Middlebury Union High School. Walkers covered 10 miles of Middlebury terrain, each contributing a minimum pledge of $25.

According to the NMSS, "MS is thought to be an autoimmune disease that affects the central nervous system (CNS). The CNS consists of the brain, spinal cord and the optic nerves." In MS, symptoms result when inflammation and breakdown occur in myelin, the protective insulation surrounding the nerve fibers of the central nervous system. The symptoms of MS are broad and vary greatly from person to person. The NMSS Web site reports, "A person with MS could have loss of balance and muscle coordination making walking difficult; another person with MS could have slurred speech, tremors, stiffness and bladder problems. Even severe symptoms may disappear completely and the person will regain lost functions."

MS is not fatal, but greatly impacts the lives of sufferers. Approximately 400,000 Americans report having MS, which usually appears in adults between the age of 20 and 50 and affects a disproportionate number of women. While genetics may play a role in the disease, there is no evidence that it is directly inherited. While there is currently no cure for the disease, the NMSS has invested $350 million in research that their Web site reports has "made possible significant advancements in finding treatments and improving diagnosis, rehabilitation and symptomatic therapy for people with all forms of MS — as well as bringing us closer to a cure."

According to literature published by the Vermont Division of NMSS, "The MS Walk is a great chance for teams and communities to come together for a fun-filled event while making a tremendous difference in the lives of those with multiple sclerosis."

The CF Walk, held on Sunday afternoon, began and ended on Franklin St. just outside of Twilight Hall. Middlebury student Erin King '04, chairperson of the Middlebury Great Strides Walk, played an instrumental role in organizing the three-mile walk. "This is the third year that this walk has taken place in Middlebury, and in the past it has proved fairly successful. This year, my goal is to get more students involved," she explained. Encouraging students to participate in next year's walk, she said, "It's really an easy, fun way to make a difference," adding, "It's late enough in the day so you can sleep in, go to brunch, and still make it." Despite King's humor, her involvement in the CF Walk is deeply personal. King's high school best friend suffered from CF and passed away due to complications from the disease at age 16.

According to the CFF, "Cystic fibrosis is a genetic disease affecting approximately 30,000 children and adults in the United States. CF causes the body to produce an abnormally thick, sticky mucus." The mucus may cover the respiratory or digestive organs resulting in chronic lung infections or digestive problems. While specialized treatments are available to address these problems at CF Foundation-supported care centers across the country, there is no cure for CF. CF is a life-threatening disease. Thirty years ago, the age of survival for those suffering from CF was only eight years old. While research on the disease has advanced significantly, today the lifespan of sufferers averages just over 30 years.

The CFF supports a broad range of medical research to achieve its mission of finding a cure or control for CF and to improve the quality and length of life for people with the disease. The CF Walk is one of the many events sponsored by the Foundation to raise money for research and medical projects. The Foundation's motto — "Adding tomorrows every day"— expresses the urgency of CF research efforts. "With each sunrise, scientists understand a bit more about the disease; promising new drugs advance through the pipeline; and caregivers' techniques to manage the symptoms of CF become more powerful. As a result, more and more individuals with CF are living full adult lives," the organization's Web site explains.

King witnessed firsthand what it means to live with CF. Describing her friend's struggle with the disease, King said, "I witnessed how she needed to take a handful of pills every afternoon just to keep from getting more sick than her body could handle. When she did catch the flu, she was hospitalized for several weeks. From that point forward, she needed to carry an oxygen tank because it had left her too weak to rely on her lungs alone." King continued, "When she took up piano, it didn't even register that it was because she couldn't breathe enough to play clarinet anymore." King's friend moved from Vermont to New Orleans to better her chance of getting a lung transplant, a temporary solution for patients with lung complications. Despite the optimism of family and friends, King's friend passed away shortly after the relocation.

King's personal experience with CF has been deepened through her involvement with the CF Walk. She said, "Through this walk, I have met several families whose children have CF. The first year, a family from Burlington came to walk with their baby girl. During the walk I talked with her father, who asked me about my friend. I felt horrible answering him, telling him how old she was when she died. I knew that everything I said about her might someday apply to his baby daughter, and I could offer him no hope. In the end, that is why I am doing this walk… so that these families can have hope."

This year 18 people participated in the walk and 4 other volunteers were present to help with the event. King reports that $3,311.78 was raised, the most the Middlebury walk has ever collected in pledges.

Vermonters Work for Trash-free State

(continued from page 10)

ers, particularly children, much needed food and rest after a day in the sun. Many other businesses across Vermont followed suit.

Though the trash is still coming in and won't be quantified officially until sometime next week, Routh said that historically the amount has been in the ballpark of 10 to 16 tons of loose trash for Addison County alone, excluding larger items such as tires and car parts. Many say that it could actually be higher considering that this past Saturday was a particularly nice day and most towns ran out of bags.

Another feature of Green Up Day is a poster contest that starts well in advance of the actual event. Children from across the state draw or paint the best posters they can, one of which is chosen to represent Green Up Day for all of Vermont. Roorda noted that the contest is just another way to involve children. With great contributions from schools and children in general, there is no doubt that Saturday was a cheerful and productive day.

Nonetheless, as Martin said, "It makes you think, what are we doing throwing all that stuff onto the roads in the first place?"

Flying Batons

Schuyler Van Horn

Jugglers entertain students and children *Friday evening for the May Day celebration held in Kenyon Arena.*

Fun Summer Events and Activities

May Days in Middlebury
Local businesses join together for the third annual promotion from May 15-18. Storeowners will hang beautiful baskets of blossoms to celebrate the arrival or spring. Participating businesses will hold drawings for prizes, offering customers the chance to win gift baskets, a picnic dinner for two and an overnight stay for two. Feeling the crunch of finals? Stop and smell the roses in downtown Middlebury.

Want to give blood?
The American Red Cross Blood Drive will be held on Tues., May 13, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Hall on Exchange Street in Middlebury.

Willie Nelson, Tracy Chapman and Garrison Keillor spice up summer in Vermont
The Summer Concert Series "Concerts on the Green" at the Shelburne Museum, seven miles south of Burlington, will feature these famous musicians and entertainers. Scheduled to perform are Willie Nelson & Family on June 23, Tracy Chapman on July 20, Alison Krauss on Aug. 15 and National Public Radio (NPR) superstar Garrison Keillor's "A Prairie Home Companion" on Aug. 19.

Vermont Tree Society (VTS) proclaims 2003 "The Year of the Tree"
The VTS will be holding several events over the summer, among these the opening of Gifford Woods State Park in Killington on May 17 and the Family Fun Day at the Noble Dairy Farm and Starksboro Town Forest on July 26. Come learn how to protect our maple, oak and fir friends.

Learn Vermont Lore at the Rokeby Museum
Visit a stop on the Underground Railroad in Ferrisburgh, Vt., and meet the Robinsons. This pioneering family of Quaker abolitionists, farmers and artists lived in Rokeby, a sheep farm, from the 1790s to 1961. Experience rural Vermont family life and get to know the real Green Mountain State.

Want to ride with Jesus (and fellow Motorcycling Christians) by your side?
Join the Christian Motorcyclists Association on the fourth Friday of every month at 7 p.m., at the Assembly of God Christian Center in Ferrisburgh, Vt. Contact Emile or Marian Perron for more information at 877-2883.

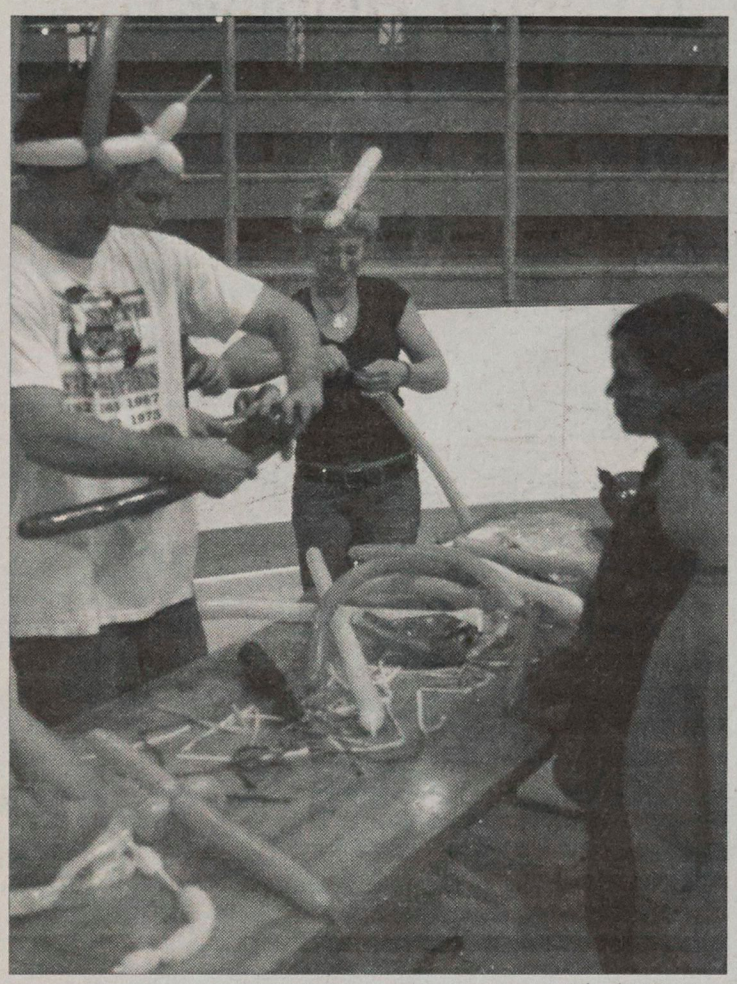
Discover the artifacts of the Green Mountain State
Visit the Henry Sheldon Museum of Vermont History at 1 Park St. in Middlebury. The museum is open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Stock your shelves for lazy summer days
The Ilsley Library on Main St. in Middlebury will hold a book sale on the first Saturday of every month from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Is your summer love poetry Shakespeare-caliber?
Come to the Middlebury Writers' Workshops on Mondays from 10 a.m. to noon to hear feedback on your writing. The meetings are free and open to all who are interested in sharing their work and listening to others' pieces. For information call Marjory Cady, 388-1126.

— Compiled by Kelsey Rinehart

Balloon Animals for All



Schuyler Van Horn

David Kaufmann *'03, Ernie Miller '03 and Raylene Forgues created balloon animals at Friday's May Day celebration.*

Burlington Nudists Bare All

By Greg Duggan
Staff Writer

Anyone spending time at the mountains or beaches of Vermont this summer may happen upon a newly formed group based out of Burlington: the Burlington Nudists. A handful of founding members have been meeting at houses and waiting indoors until warmer weather will allow them to bare their full, nude selves in the summer sun.

John Miller started the group with two of his friends and explained in an e-mail interview with *The Middlebury Campus*, "Our motivations were that there are no organized nudist groups in the area but there is a lot of interest expressed by many people. Most people just go it alone or with friends." Several nudist resorts exist in Vermont, but none of these have group affiliations. Once the membership of the Burlington Nudists grows, the group plans to associate itself with one of the resorts.

At the moment, the Burlington Nudists group consists entirely of men, but expects to include women soon enough. Miller says the group "will be doing more promotional ads to let people know we are here and trying to form a larger group." Others in the Burlington area have tried to form nudist groups in the past but have failed largely because of a lack of advertising. Miller's group hopes to get its name out soon so that a large number of people will join.

The nudists have started a Web group on Yahoo! at http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NakedInVermont/, which provides a discussion forum for members. Miller says that discussion topics typically include "issues such as where nudity is legal or not, best ways to keep from offending the public, events that we would like to host or attend and the appropriate place to hold those events."

According to the Web site, 99 people have joined the discussion group since it opened in February. The group funds itself, and seeks to bring together anyone interested in taking part in organized nudist activities. The only stipulation to membership is that everyone be over 18, unless a family member of a younger person is present. Miller said he hopes "that people will refer friends and acquaintances that might be interested in nudism to help increase the visibility of the group."

He explained the appeal of nudism, saying it "provides a feeling of freedom and certainly comfort." Of course, being a nudist does not entail going about all of life's activities unclothed. Miller assured that nudists don clothes when visiting the store and other public places. Generally, the nudists undress in private settings, such as homes, beaches (where nudity is legal) and resorts. They remain discreet and make every attempt to avoid offending the public.

When asked about the oddest places he has bared his skin, Miller said "on top of a mountain and driving in a car, but only because I was dared."

The Burlington Nudists have planned their first outdoor event for later in May, when they plan to go on a nudist camping and hiking trip. With the arrival of warmer weather, the group also plans to visit various beaches and out-of-state nudist events.

Proposed Bill Aims to Boost Recycling

(continued from page 11)
the state.

Michigan is the lone state to push through a dime deposit. Matt Fletcher, recycling and composting coordinator for the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, acknowledged that the higher deposit has resulted in a problem with "container migration." This phenomenon occurs when consumers take a bottle or can on which they paid a nickel deposit into Michigan for a dime redemption.

The "Seinfeld effect," made famous by Kramer and Newman's journey from New York to Michigan in a can-filled mail truck, results in losses for retailers who have to pay out deposits on containers that they did not sell. Fletcher said monitoring fraudulent out-of-state containers is a difficult task and noted that some grocery stores take in double the number of cans they sell. Retailers along Michigan's southern border have reported business losses as high as 25 percent.

In order to mitigate this problem, proponents of the bottle bill in Vermont say the real answer would be a uniform regional policy: eliminating deposit differences to prevent interstate container migration. Nuovo supports this regional coalition.

Rep. William Johnson (R-Canaan), chairman of the House of Natural Resources Committee, currently opposes the bill to increase the deposit, but said he would support a regional solution. Johnson sees the lack of a deposit in New Hampshire as a major impediment to creating a successful bottle return program. "Rather than concentrating on our own legislation, maybe we should put together a regional task force," he said.

U.S. Senator Jim Jeffords (I-Vt.) sees a national bottle bill as the solution. Over the past decade he has introduced and continually pursued this approach. The National Bottle Bill, however, has failed to gain enough momentum to pass Congress.

Nuovo concedes that it is unlikely that the bottle legislation will go anywhere this session. Representatives note that there are other issues that are taking priority at the moment. Though it has gone by the wayside for the time being, proponents of the new bottle bill will continue to push for recycling reform in 2004.

Cannabis Coalition

By Megan O'Keefe
Assistant Local News Editor

On Saturday, May 3, the Vermont Cannabis Coalition held a rally in Burlington's Battery Park to protest the prohibition of marijuana. The event, one of 200 similar protests held around the world on Saturday, was a part of Cure-not-Wars' annual Million Marijuana March.

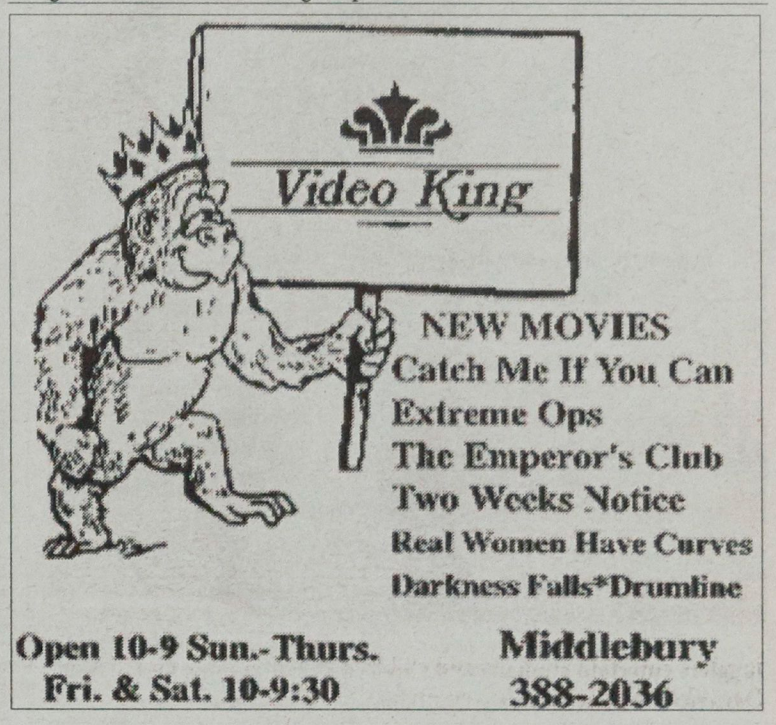
The Burlington protest was largely an educational event. Vermont State Representative Dave Zuckerman, who recently introduced a bill advocating the legalization of medical marijuana before the Vermont Legislature, spoke, along with neurologist Dr. Joe McSherry. The 100 participants were encouraged to collect information materials while listening to the music of the Channel 2 Dub Band.

The Million Marijuana March was started almost 30 years ago by Dana Beal. Since Beal founded Cures-not-Wars, a New York-based organization, in 1999 the group has assumed sponsorship of the event. Cures-not-Wars was founded in May 1994 as a grass-roots response, according to the group's Web site, "to the deteriorating quality of life in America." In addition to marijuana activism the organization has assumed a strong stance on many drug-related issues. According to its Web site, Cures-not-Wars is composed of a "coalition of concerned citizens, drug-reform activists, health-care and drug-treatment providers, drug users and social-justice activists committed to direct action to stop the drug war, whether in small, local protests or in regional or national actions." The organization provides informational materials on Cures-not-Wars.org and Million MarijuanaMarch.org designed to unite the efforts of activists throughout the world. "The war on drugs," declares Cures-not-Wars, "is public health enemy number one." The goals of the organization include legalizing possession and over-the-counter sale of hypodermic syringes to reduce the spread of infectious disease, funding medical research for non-coercive drug treatments and separating so-called "soft" and "hard" drugs, while decriminalizing all personal use.

Spring Painting

Schuyler Van Horn

Painting tables *drew local children at the May Day celebration in Kenyon Arena. The event brought a bluegrass band, dancing and games to the arena for an evening.*



Editorial

Saving AP Credit

A vote at next Monday's faculty meeting will determine the fate of Advanced Placement (AP) credit at Middlebury College. There's a contingent of the faculty that advocates severing the policy that awards college credit for performance on AP exams taken in high school.

We caution against this route. Though these exams should never substitute for a complete college experience, AP credit injects valuable flexibility into a student's four years here.

During times of transition, students with a bushel of AP credits can feel free to drop to three courses, allowing them to get their bearings and channel energy into a smaller course load. AP credits also enable students to study abroad without worrying whether their coursework will translate to a full semester's worth of credit. This opens up opportunities for non-constituted academic experiences, such as internships, travel or independent research.

We place a premium on flexibility. So should the faculty.

Discontinuing AP credit would sideline the flexibility that students value in their educational experience. *The Middlebury Campus* therefore opposes a wholesale ban on AP credits at the College.

We are concerned, however, about the rare student who activates 9 AP credits and graduates a full year early. It's delusional for any assortment of AP exams to masquerade as a full year of college coursework.

To remedy this problem, we propose a cap of four AP credits that may count towards graduation. We want to preserve flexibility. We want to acknowledge the legitimacy of AP exams. But we also want to prevent abuse of the system.

We ask the faculty to hear our voice.

Charging to the Chip

Be forewarned.

The golden chip is about to be stripped of its powers.

The Campus was dismayed to learn that the Executive Council voted to eliminate the credit system that enables students to charge College purchases to their PIN Bills.

Think of that cup of coffee you grabbed at The Grille this morning. Or those textbooks you charged in early February.

Starting in the fall of 2004, these charges will be debited from a balance that students must deposit in advance. Gone are the days of carefree charging, only to receive a weighty PIN bill at the end of the month.

This reform will certainly put an end to delinquent PIN Bill accounts. It will also cause unnecessary hardship for the majority of students who use the system responsibly.

Does the Executive Council expect students to pay cash for textbook bills that reach into the hundreds of dollars? And what if you're on the phone and your debit account runs dry? Does the line go dead?

Eliminating the credit system generates these problems and more, especially for students who rely on their College paycheck for personal spending money. Without charging privileges, these students may experience lean financial times between paychecks.

We also regret that the Executive Council reached its decision behind closed doors. Student input could have flagged key areas of concern before the final vote was taken.

We lament the passing of the days when students were trusted to pay their bills. And we lament the unilateral action taken by the Executive Council on an issue that so affects the student body.

The Middlebury Campus

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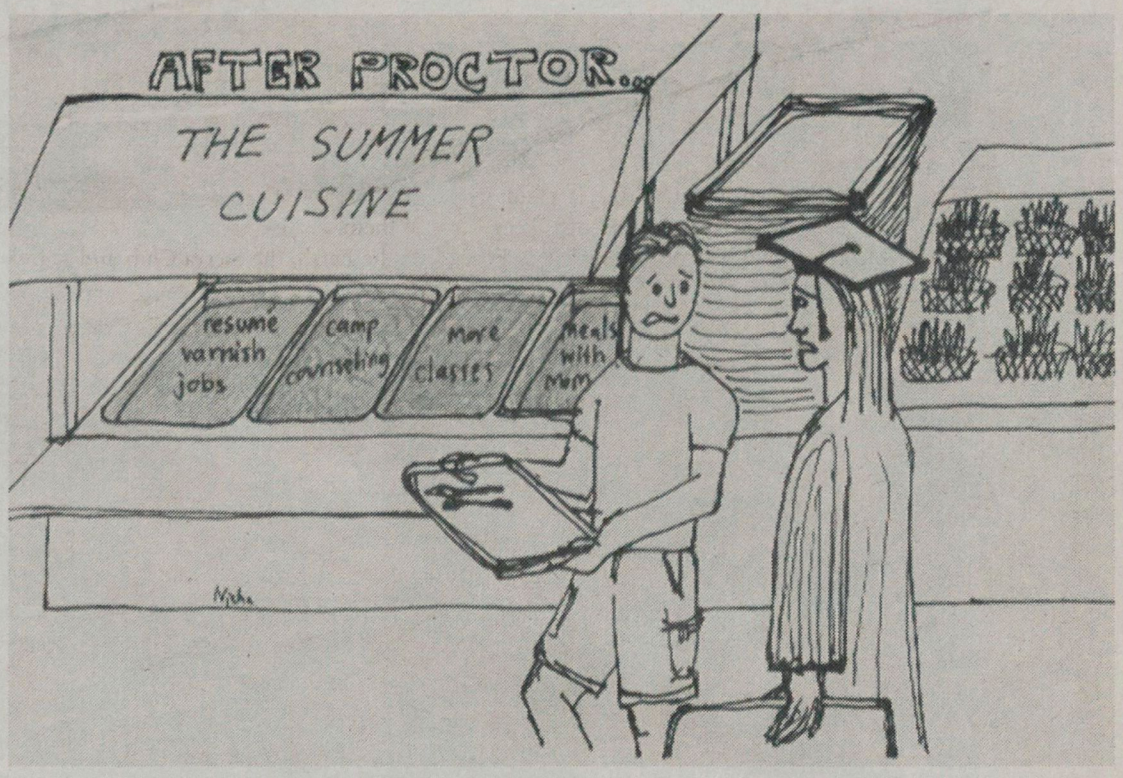

MiddCard's Future Raises Concerns

-Christopher Howard'04.5-

I have just learned that the Executive Council plans on overhaul the MiddCard system, eliminating the chip and streamlining all transactions to the magnetic strip. This is said to bring Middlebury College into the 21st century, cut costs and keep Middlebury on par with other colleges across the country. When I heard the news, I was mostly apathetic, but I saw how this could improve the college's telematic network.

But there is also a second part of the plan, which is to eliminate the credit system, so that every transaction made with a MiddCard debits a previously filled student account. This, I thought, is going to make a lot of students unhappy.

They will be writing letters 10 a day in protest, and eventually the potentially disastrous idea of a debit system will be thrown out.

But will students ever write these letters? One of the things I have noticed during my time at Middlebury is that the Executive Council is very good at being unilateral and discreet when it wants to be. That is why it strategically made this decision at the end of the year, when people are too busy to debate it.

Has anybody seen mention of this decision in *The Middlebury Campus*? Has anybody heard any public discussion about it? Did anybody even know that Old Chapel was considering making these changes? There is a reason why the answers to all of these questions is no.

Here is why the new debit system will be so disastrous. First of all, money put in the debit accounts by students is non-refundable. This means that if I put $1,000 in the account at the beginning of the year, and I only use $500 of it, then I have just lost the other $500 to Middlebury College. Tough for me. As a way of avoiding this situation, and a lot of angry phone calls, the College will put a cap on the amount of money students will be allowed to deposit into their accounts. On other college campuses, this cap is set at $100.

This means that when it comes time to buy textbooks, students could be running back and forth from the bank to the Service Building to the Bookshop. Of course, most will avoid this scenario by just paying cash for the books upfront and avoiding the MiddCard entirely.

This is perfectly fine for students with cash, but what about the students who have in the past used the MiddCard as a way of easing the September and February shocks by gradually paying off their pin bills through money earned on campus jobs? Tough for them.

What about phone bills? Students who make a lot of long distance phone calls will either have to set up their own phone accounts and avoid the perfectly good Middlebury phone system, or they will have to make sure that their debit accounts are continuously topped off so that their phone conversations are not cut off when their accounts run out. The first time I am cut off from a long distance call with an employer or relative, Old Chapel will be hearing about it.

What bothers me most about this issue, though, is the lack of public discussion. The Executive Council decided to exclude the SGA from its decision, as well as the student body, even though this is obviously an issue that affects us all. At a private college, it is unacceptable for an Executive Council to behave like this. It is unacceptable for it to disallow public debate when it senses there could be massive disapproval.

It is unacceptable for it to play political games with students and student governments, making decisions in a clandestine manner at the end of the year when nobody is paying attention.

I for one have never felt so powerless on this campus since I came here. I do have one drawing card left however, which happens to be a drawing card held by plenty of other students.

For now is the time of year when parents and alumni are being hounded by college representatives to make philanthropic donations.

I know of one family that will not be making one.

Christopher Howard is an international politics and economics major from West Vancouver, Canada.

Opinions Submission Policy

The Opinions pages of *The Middlebury Campus* provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, *The Campus* reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for reasons including, but not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. *The Campus* will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributor and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper.

The Campus welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 700 words or less. Submit works to campus@middlebury.edu, Drawer 30 or directly to the Opinions Editor by 5 p.m. Tuesday. *The Campus* retains the right to edit all submissions.

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Bush's Environmental Policy

Has the Bush Administration Done What's Best for the American People?

Liberal Voice

- May Boeve '06.5 -

What exactly is an "environmental policy"? If one were to base her definition on the current U.S. presidential administration, it would be "How Best to Increase Profits of U.S.-owned Multinational Corporations." The president succeeds with this as his objective, as his administration initiates rollback upon rollback of environmental protections in the interest of Corporate America.

But he doesn't stop there. Along with reversing the positive policies made by previous, more ecologically conscious administrations, he adds his own shockingly reactionary policies.

Examine, as an example of how the Bush administration has condoned environmental degradation, its policies regarding global warming. When the administration convened a panel from the National Academy of Sciences to review its proposed plan to address climate change, the panelists scoffed at the modicum of funds allocated for the project.

However, the real whoopee cushion of an embarrassment entails the panelists' ridicule of a plan that involved conducting "research on questions about which there is already scientific consensus" (National Resources Defense Council, Feb. 25, 2003).

Another impressively backward plan initiated by Bush is his new idea for controlling power-plant emissions. No alternative energy sources will be employed, nor will U.S. power plants discontinue fossil fuel use. Rather, the plan is to construct the world's first carbon-dioxide emissions-free power plant — run on coal! Nice idea, I guess, but *whom are we kidding here*? I can hardly fathom the irony of a coal-run power plant. Just how much money is the U.S. coal industry contributing to Bush's re-election campaign?

Therein lies the trend of these disheartening policies. When one reads in the news about yet another bill that will wreak irreversible damage on the environment, it can usually be explained with a little reading between the lines concerning which industry might benefit from a particular ecosystem's loss.

At such times, Bush's interests aren't even vested: they're sticking out of the front pocket of his suit coat.

In response to the array of abuses raining down from Capitol Hill, various environmental groups have their hands full attempting to counteract some of them.

Lobbyists representing environmental groups are using their allies in the House and Senate to try to offset pressures of a different nature from corporate lobbies (who carry more weight given the make-up of the current Congress).

Much of the environmental organizations' efforts lie in publicizing what exactly the administration is up to: so many regulatory laws are being overturned that it is difficult to keep track of them.

Friends of the Earth, the Sierra Club and Natural Resources Defense Council are good examples of such organizations, and their Web sites maintain updated reports.

Along with this, the Sierra Club's Web site includes an interactive activity called "The Big Book of Bush," full of edgy irony. For example, one activity involves the participant clicking on different states on a map of the United States as part of a Bush-Cheney field trip across National Forests to look for areas to drill for oil. But just beneath the surface exists the discouraging truth of what actually occurs as a result of this legislation.

So don't be duped, my fellow students of a school that lists "recycling" in the Student Life link on its Web site.

Even though Bush shows all the signs of an environmentally conscious individual, he maintains direct ties to the oil industry and he is no friend of the earth.

Often what one problematic presidential administration puts into place by way of policies can be easily reversed by succeeding presidents (just look at the Clinton to Bush transition of powers).

In the field of environmental protection, this is not the case because damage to the environment is largely irreparable.

The corporations that receive the losses of air, water and wildlife will continue to grow and environmental stability will diminish.

Conservative Voice

- Drew Pugsley '04 -

I am going to begin this article by pleading some ignorance on this particular topic. However, in the United States, and here in Vermont in particular, the environment is an important issue. I will not deny that the current administration's record on the environment is somewhat less than perfect.

However, it is important to understand the true implications of some of the environmental decisions any administration makes.

The argument that the Bush Administration could be more environmentally friendly is an obvious one. Every administration in the history of the United States, and in every other nation of the world, could have more strict environmental standards. However, the purpose of government is to do what it thinks is best for its people.

And it is in the long-term interests of every citizen of this world to have a safe, healthly and beautiful environment. But the fact of the matter is that each administration determines what it thinks is the best balance of business and environmental controls.

In a representative democracy, like the United States of America, we elect the representatives, senators and president who we think best represent our interests and will promote the balance with which we identify.

I will concede that the United States should have agreed to ratify the Kyoto Protocol. I was and am still absolutely as apprehensive about it as the current administration. However, as merely a gesture of cooperation and good faith to the rest of the world, it would not have killed us to accept those heightened environmental standards.

I personally believe that this particular issue may have been a political blunder if nothing else. While Bush and Donald Rumsfeld do not place as much emphasis on international relations or diplomacy as Colin Powell does, it is important to consider the negative consequences of not ratifying the treaty.

There are, of course, negative effects of every decision to increase environmental controls, as well. At this particular time, for example, to impose heavier restrictions on vehicle and factory emissions would do absolutely nothing to help the economy. Any increased cost that new regulations would cause to firms would be passed immediately on to consumers and would have virtually the same effect as a tax increase.

Although this could decrease pollution even further because factories would have to shut down, I doubt that most people who lost their jobs in those factories would be particularly happy. These solutions would have an immediate effect on the environment but would, with the advent of alternative energy technologies, eventually become obsolete.

I think it would probably be more appropriate to focus U.S. tax dollars on developing fuel cell technology and other alternative energy sources that provide longer-term solutions rather than adopting a policy that would hurt the economy.

Many Europeans make the argument that the citizens of the United States are too concerned with security and safety. They accuse most of us of being ultra-sensitive to threats. I see the truth in this argument and would liken it to the debate on the environment.

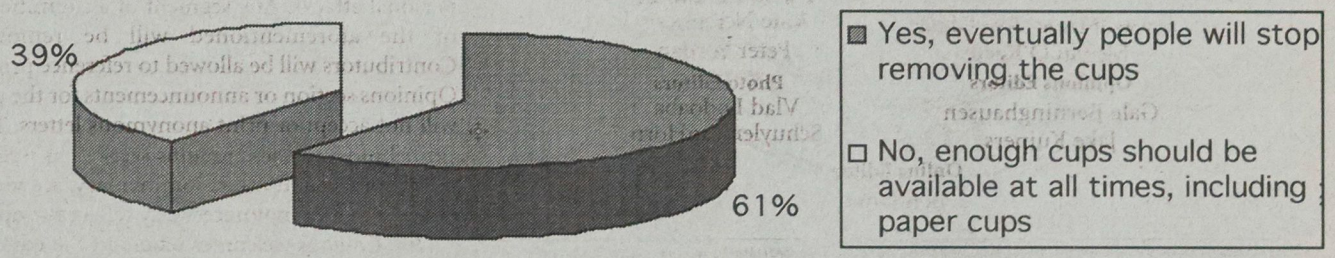
To me the actual condition of the environment always seems exaggerated. Of course I understand and agree that the environment should be carefully monitored and managed. However, to me, an irresponsible dictator with weapons of mass destruction seems to be a much more direct threat than the fact that the temperature is, on average, one degree higher than it used to be.

Could the Bush Administration's policies be more environmentally friendly? Sure. Should they be? OK. Would the opening of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge have cataclysmic effects on the world as we know it? Of course not.

ONLINE POLL

Should Middlebury Quit Replacing Missing Proctor Cups?

72 people polled at www.middleburycampus.com


39%
61%
Yes, eventually people will stop removing the cups
No, enough cups should be available at all times, including paper cups

'Bowling for Columbine': Moore Presents Truths or Not?

-Daryn Cambridge '03-

On April 28-30, Middlebury College Activities Board, the Department of Sociology, the Department of Political Science and the Program in Film and Media Culture screened Michael Moore's documentary, "Bowling for Columbine." It was one of the most widely attended events on this campus and one of the most magnificent displays of community attendance during my four years at Middlebury.

I was one of over a hundred people turned away at the first showing due to a packed Dana Auditorium.

I was pleased to find out that it would be screened again the following evening. When I showed up early the next night, again there was a crowd of people waiting to enter. Fearing I would be denied entry once again, the packed crowds and long lines were initially a cause for frustration. Despite the circumstances, though, my strongest sentiments were actually of a positive nature.

Seeing groups of people migrate to Dana Auditorium with a shared desire to view Moore's film communicated to me the concerns people had with the workings of American society and their desire to inquire into the problems that for many Americans are unavoidable — whether it's gun violence, racism, media manipulation, welfare, corporate greed, militarism or a variety of other pertinent issues.

During a lazy day in Border's Books on Church Street — a few weeks after the attacks of Sept. 11 had triggered unprecedented displays of patriotism and support for the president — I stumbled across a book called "Stupid White Men." On the cover was a portly, scruffy-necked man in jeans and a baseball cap, wielding the Washington Monument in one hand while looming like a giant over a table where corporate-fashioned, old, white, men were seated.

I began flipping through the pages. I was shocked when, what I then considered, "anti-American" sentiment began to spill from the pages. What was this book all about? How could someone be criticizing our government during a time that required our support? Out of curiosity though, I kept flipping. I looked around to see if I was receiving any evil looks, shifted my weight from one foot to the other, and situated myself in a comfortable reading stance. Slowly but surely, my flipping became reading.

I later purchased "Stupid White Men" and read it cover-to-cover, all the while laughing as well as throwing my hands up in dismay. This is the powerful response that Michael Moore can create for anyone who encounters his work. The first time I saw "Bowling For Columbine" I sat alongside my parents in a small theater in Northern Virginia.

The whole audience fought to hold back tears as we all struggled to digest footage of distraught Columbine High Schoolers, the results of American-installed dictators, and ubiquitous forms of racism. Five minutes later we would be holding onto our popcorn as it shook with the strength our laughter. That is a Michael Moore experience.

Many people criticize Moore for being misleading in his stories, annoying in his presentation and a big fat idiot. I, on the other hand, believe Moore embodies something that makes this country great: the freedom of speech. I admire his enduring desire to expose the problems he finds with his country. I do not agree with everything he says, but I do admire the way in which he embraces his American rights and citizenry.

Some may remember Moore's controversial "We like non-fiction because we live in fictitious times" speech he delivered while accepting his Academy Award. In a post award-show press conference he was asked, "Why did you do what you did?" He responded, "I'm an American."

The reporter then asked, "That's it?" Moore said, "That's a lot! I'm an American and you don't leave your citizenship when you enter the doors of the Kodak Theater. What's great about this country is that you're able to speak your mind and that's what I do in my film-making, I do that in my daily life, and I don't stop being who I am when I come into this ceremony."

Every time Moore gets escorted out of a corporation's headquarters or receives a palm in the lens of his camera, he in turn triggers important debate among those who are exposed to the questions he raises.

For that, I praise him as a modern "gadfly to the state."

-Peter Simon '04-

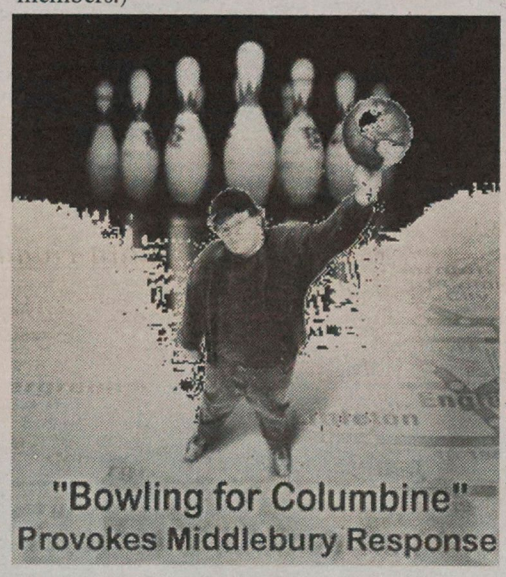
The first time I saw "Bowling for Columbine," in Paris in the fall, I enjoyed it. Bravo, Michael Moore, I said. I disagree with much of what you say, but I'll admit, you made a good film.

But then I did a little research. I was certainly taken aback by many of the things Moore claimed to be true, and the film is very convincing. But it was so one-sided.

What I found in several articles on the film shocked me. The film is still thought-provoking — only now the thought it provokes is how can an entire nation of audiences fall for this stuff?

The problem isn't that Moore is just presenting one side of the issue. That much is obvious, and any politcally-based documentary might do the same. The problem is that Moore presents his side by deliberately attempting to deceive the viewer into believing things that are just not true.

Charleton Heston did not rush to Colorado and Michigan to hold defiant gun-rallies in the wake of school shooting disasters at Columbine and Flint. The National Rifle Association (NRA) "rally" held in Denver was its annual meeting at a time and place that had been fixed years in advance. The NRA cancelled all scheduled events that week out of respect for the Columbine victims. All they held was the members' meeting. (The NRA, by the way, has 4 million members.)



"Bowling for Columbine" Provokes Middlebury Response

Moore uses clever editing to make Heston sound defiant. "From my cold dead hands!" was actually said about a year later in North Carolina. Heston said nothing of the sort in Denver. The rest of Heston's alleged speech is spliced together from various parts of his speech to make him sound defiant. This is the equivalent of a "non-fiction" writer quoting another author by taking bits and pieces of sentences written by that author, combining them and presenting them as the author's words.

Eight months after Kayla Rolland's death in Flint, Michigan, Heston held an election rally, which had nothing to do with the incident or even guns. Moore mysteriously neglects to mention that the incident in Flint may have had more to do with the fact that the 6-year-old shooter was growing up in a crack-house than the fact that his mother had to work to earn welfare.

This is just the beginning of the deception. There is an animated sequence suggesting a connection between the NRA and the KKK. In fact, the NRA was founded by former Union members after the Civil War; the KKK by Southern white supremacists. The groups were, from the start, vehemently opposed to one another and certainly never in cahoots, as depicted in the film.

The United States, we're told, gave the Taliban $245 million in aid in the years leading up to September 11. The money was in fact humanitarian aid given through United Nations and governmental agencies.

Moore even goes so far as to stage several scenes presented as having spontaneously happened, such as the opening scene of receiving a gun from a bank, and the final scene, depicting a morally righteous Moore holding a picture of Kayla Rolland, while Heston is allegedly walking away from him.

You get the picture. This is just scratching the surface. It's impossible, in this amount of space, to describe every trick Moore used to make his often-baseless points. The filmmaker's deceptions won't bother many of you. I just hope that those of the same political orientation as Mr. Moore don't place politics above truth.

Peter Simon is a psychology major and French minor from New York, N.Y.

Middle Ground

-Fahim Ahmed '03-

Middle Ground began publication last fall with the objective of providing a moderate and centrist commentary on U.S. domestic politics, economic policies and international affairs. During the course of the past year, however, we have observed the middle ground in politics shift, steadily but definitively, away from the center, with the conservative right increasingly consolidated within its end-zone, and the liberal left polarized further away from the center.

Has the middle ground, then, been forever lost? It is perhaps fitting that this final edition of Middle Ground be dedicated to a retrospective on the demise of the moderate view in the developments of the past year.

One of the most significant events of the year has been the historical results of the midterm Congressional elections. For the first time in several decades, the party of the incumbent in the White House gained seats in both houses of Congress, retaining its majority in the House of Representatives and regaining control of the Senate.

Its strong performance in the polls emboldened the Republican Party and its leader President Bush to pursue its conservative agenda on such issues as the creation of the Department of Homeland Security, judicial appointments and tax-cut plans. At the political (rather than the policy) level, it encouraged the Republican Party to reaffirm its roots in the ideological right — most aptly illustrated by Senator Trent Lott's now-infamous comments. The Democratic Party was also encouraged to shift further left towards its traditional comfort zone — a move characterized by its choice of the liberal Congressman Pelosi as House Minority Leader.

The greatest collateral damage of this polarization in the domestic sphere, perhaps, has been the economy. Bush's plan for economic recovery appears transfixed on one single element: a further cut in taxes.

The President's latest proposal to reduce taxes by $726 billion and eliminate taxes on dividends threatens to convert the largest federal budget surplus in U.S. history from two years ago into the largest federal deficit, without a sufficient likelihood of initiating an economic recovery.

The Democrats, on the other hand, have been quick on the criticism but slow on the counter-policy.

The proposal by Democratic presidential hopeful Congressman Dick Gephardt (D-Mo.) to cancel the $1.1 trillion tax cut and to replace it with a universal health insurance program at $210 billion per year promises to perpetuate the deficit without providing an impetus to strengthen the economy.

The deep schism that has recently developed in the American polity has most palpably manifested itself on the issue of the war on Iraq. While Bush enjoyed the support of 70 percent of Americans in the recent Operation Iraqi Freedom, the overwhelming majority in figures belies the underlying divisions.

Whereas 94 percent of Republicans supported the President in the war, only 50 percent of the Democrats backed him. Further, a majority of African-Americans and Hispanic-Americans had opposed his position on the Iraq issue. Just as significantly, the war on Iraq saw the American mass media gravitate to the right.

The biased, often jingoistic, coverage of the war by Fox News and MSNBC in particular, and major U.S. news sources in general, raises questions about the future of independent press in a democratic society.

The war on Iraq has also led to a polarization in the global context. An important development in Operation Iraqi Freedom was the effective disintegration of NATO — the most successful military alliance in recent world history — and the emergence of strategic and disposable alliances.

Also significant is the emergence of Europe, most notably France, Germany and Russia, as a countervailing force against U.S. hegemony. These developments may well be early signs of a global reorientation that further reemphasizes the increasingly bipolar nature of the modern world.

So what, then, is the future of the middle ground in U.S. politics, economic policies and in international affairs? Has American society shifted ideologically and politically to the right?

We may well have to wait until November 2004 for a definitive answer.

Democracy Threatened by Deregulation

-Zachary Manganello '03-

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) will be voting on the issue of further deregulation of the mass media on June 2. Most Americans don't know about this because, for obvious conflict-of-interest reasons, the mass media aren't reporting on it.

The big media corporations already command a disproportionate amount of social and political power. These corporations are motivated by profits, but at the same time they get to decide what Americans see and hear on the news. This, to me, seems an untenable combination.

The upcoming FCC vote (Docket 02-277) would allow these corporations to further consolidate their holdings, meaning TV and radio stations would become less local and more homogenous (the so-called "Clear Channel effect").

I believe that a thriving democracy depends on a full airing of differing viewpoints.

(see Big Media page 17)

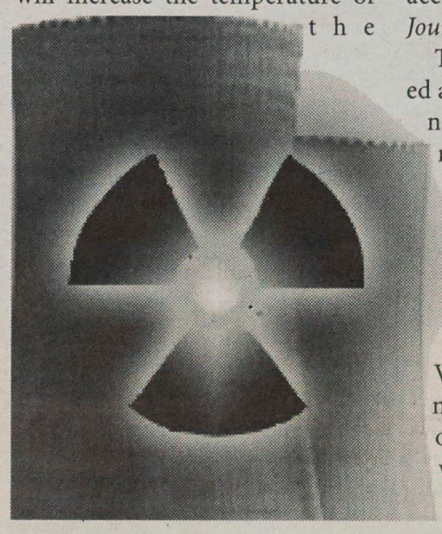
Honan: Say "No" to Vermont Yankee

-Edith Honan '03-

It is high time that Middlebury College join Vermonters in saying no to Vermont Yankee (VY). Currently, Entergy Nuclear is requesting that VY's original licensing agreement of 40 years, which is set to expire in 2012, be extended for 20 or 30 years. Furthermore, Entergy is seeking to increase the allowable energy-producing capacity at the 31-year-old reactor by 20 percent, or 105 megawatts.

According to *The Rutland Herald*, just two years ago the previous owners of Vermont Yankee, a consortium of New England utilities, had rejected increasing power by a mere five percent. It is unclear why Entergy should be so much more confident. One thing that is clear is that Vermonters are standing up to the utility.

The Connecticut River Watershed Council, which was recently granted permission to intervene in hearings on this issue, maintains that an uprate will increase the temperature of the Connecticut River and damage aquatic life.



"[Entergy] wants to bring the equivalent of a new nuclear reactor built with old parts into Vermont. You cannot generate extra electricity there without splitting extra atoms, generating extra waste, and creating extra risk of an accident," Raymond Shadis, a Coalition staff person was quoted as telling *The Brattleboro Reformer.*

Average citizens are saying "no" to Vermont Yankee and speaking truth to power.

In March, Windham County organized a symbolic referendum on VY. Of the 16 towns participating, 11 opposed Entergy's request to relicense VY, five supported it and one town reported a tie.

If the heroes of Vermont's struggle against the mammoth that is Entergy Nuclear were to be assembled today, *Brattleboro Reformer* journalist Eesha Williams would certainly be among those honored, at least according to *The Columbia Journalism Review.*

This year, Williams was awarded a Laurel for his coverage of the nuclear industry: "Thankfully, not every conscientious journalist is abandoned by management for perceived offenses against powerful newsmakers."

Apparently, on July 31, 2002, shortly before acquiring VY, Entergy Nuclear called a meeting and presented editors of *The Brattleboro Reformer* with a list of selections from Williams' recent book, "Grassroots Journalism: A Practical Manual for Doing the Kind of Newswriting That Doesn't Just Get People Angry, but Active — That Doesn't Just Inform, but Inspires."

They argued that Williams should be taken off the beat.

The managing editor asked whether Entergy could point to any examples of factual inaccuracy.

No, they couldn't.

And so it was settled. *The Reformer's* publisher had this to say: "While I hold conservative views, this isn't my paper. It's the people's paper.

We're not here to make Vermont Yankee happy. We're not here to make anyone happy but our readers."

So you see, Vermonters have shown that they are capable of speaking truth to power, even when that power is a multi-billion, energy-producing company. And it is high time that Middlebury students join them. VY should not be allowed to operate beyond its present licensing agreement, nor should we tolerate an increase in energy production.

Vermonters should not be put at risk in the name of lining the deep pockets of Entergy Nuclear.

Entergy Nuclear would like for Americans to become even more dependent on nuclear energy. It is time for Middlebury College to say no.

Edith Honan is a literary studies major from Redding Ridge, Conn.

Solitary Wings

Vlad Lodoaba

Perched on the branches of a white birch tree, a solitary bird enjoys a moment's rest.

Big Media Hides Truth

(continued from page 16)

Further deregulation will hurt American democracy, a harm which far outweighs the meager efficiency gains that result from corporate consolidation.

FCC Chairman Michael Powell — one of five presidentially appointed commissioners and the son of U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell — is pushing hard for further deregulation and wants to vote on this before the American people even know it's an issue.

Vermont Congressman Bernie Sanders and one FCC Commissioner, Michael Copps, have done a heroic job in trying to bring this issue to the attention of the media and the public. But the vote is only a month away, and many Americans still don't know what the FCC is, let alone about the upcoming vote on deregulating the mass media.

If this vote goes through it might mean that a few media executives really will be in control of the hearts and minds of U.S. citizens. No matter what the outcome of the upcoming vote, if they want either my heart or my mind, they're going to have to come and pry it out of my cold dead fingers. You can file public comments on this and other issues with the FCC by visiting: <http://gullfoss2.fcc.gov/ecfs/Upload/>

Zachary Manganello is a physics major from Cumberland, Maine. He holds the highest grade of FCC amateur radio license and is general manager of WRMC-FM 91.1.

The Middlebury Campus

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Lectures, Performances Make AIDS Forum Compelling Event

By Andrea LaRocca
Staff Writer

Forty-two million people worldwide are infected with HIV/AIDS and 8,493 people will die from AIDS today. Are you surprised? Don't be. These staggering statistics are only the beginning of what was discussed during the AIDS Forum this past weekend.

The newly formed Middlebury College chapter of the Student Global AIDS Campaign (SGAC) sponsored the AIDS forum. Because the forum was the budding student organization's first campus-wide event, the goal of the weekend was "simply to get the issues out there and to start to educate Middlebury students, faculty and staff about HIV/AIDS," said event organizer Simon Isaacs '03. The goal is hardly nominal, however.

As various speakers echoed again and again throughout the forum, "AIDS is one of the most important issues of our generation and the first step to addressing it is education."

Forum events began with a Friday evening lecture by U.S. Rep Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.) on "Fighting AIDS From Capital Hill." On Saturday, the forum continued in front of Proctor with "Voices From the Frontline," a student theatrical presentation about the effects of AIDS through first-person narratives of South Africans infected with AIDS and/or involved in the fight against AIDS. The performance, which ran much like a compilation of monologues, featured the experiences of five prominent AIDS activists, including former South African President Nelson Mandela, Zackie Achmat and Phill Wilson.

The performance was a success, said SGAC member and "Voices" organizer Courtney Matson '06.5. "The actor's individual performances gave the pieces vivid color. Those who attended seemed both moved and affected," she noted. Indeed, although the audience started small, it grew as people who were walking by got caught up in the performance and stopped to watch.

> "I came to Proctor just to eat dinner, but on my way in, I unexpectadley got some food for thought also."
>
> —Avery Hill '05.5

Avery Hill '05.5 said, "I came to Proctor just to eat dinner, but on my way in, I unexpectedly got some food for thought also."

Less dramatic but just as thought provoking was the panel discussion entitled "Pandemic, Student and Faculty Perspectives," that continued the AIDS Forum events on Sunday. The panel consisted of nine students and two professors, and collectively, the panel addressed various societal aspects of AIDS. Featured speaker Michael Sheridan, Visiting assistant professor of sociology and anthropology, addressed the political ecology of disease, and Professor David Eaton, assistant professor of sociology and anthropology, spoke on the social understandings of AIDS and intertwined political conceptions. Kaleb Tamiru, '03 then talked about the impact of AIDS on economics and Isaacs discussed the relationship between AIDS and national security. The speaker presentations were followed by a question and answer session.

The forum wrapped up on Sunday evening with the public showing of the AIDS documentary "A Closer Walk," the first film to address the AIDS epidemic. The film was followed by a discussion with Nils Daularie, the president and chief executive officer of the Vermont and Washington, D.C.-based Global Health Council.

For several people, this was the event of the weekend that made the greatest impact. According to Isaacs, several people approached him afterwards and said that they "couldn't even think of going home to do their work because they were so moved by the film and the discussion."

For students interested in pursuing the fight against AIDS, the SGAC provides an on-campus outlet for involvement, but there are hundreds of other ways to get involved, such as undertaking an advocacy internship or volunteering in AIDS-stricken countries. There are also small ways to get involved.

Isaacs said, "One of the best ways to start fighting AIDS is to educate yourself.

Don't just read the New York Times or Newsweek. Find out what's really going on." In that case, thanks to the SGAC and this weekend's AIDS Forum, Middlebury has taken the first step in the fight against AIDS.

Juia Randall

Ari Joseph '05 plays the clarinet Saturday on the Proctor Terrace as part of "Voices From the Frontline" — an arts tribute to those who have lost their lives in the AIDS pandemic.

Middlebury Brings Home the Gold

By Meghan Keenan
Staff Writer

Last weekend marked the eighth annual Consortium for Computer Sciences in Colleges (CCSCNE) Northeast Region at Rhode Island College in Providence, RI. The goal of the CCSCNE is to "bring together faculty, staff and students from academic institutions from around the Northeast for the exchange of ideas and information concerning undergraduate computer education." The two-day event centered on various activities designed to discuss helpful teaching techniques, as well as to give students hands-on experience and provide them with the opportunity to present their work. The various events included a programming competition, poster presentations and talks by prominent leaders in the field.

Middlebury College was represented in both the programming competition and poster presentations. Team Captain Maksims Ovsjanikovs '05 of Latvia, Yunpeng Li '05 of China and Dimitar Koparov '03 of Bulgaria participated as one of 31 three-person teams in the competition. Assistant Professor of Mathematics Frank Swenton advised the team.

Competing against schools such as Colby College, Connecticut College, Providence College and Wellesley College, the competition presented five programming problems and allowed three hours for teams to complete them. The method used to solve each problem was not taken into consideration — only the solution created was e-mailed to judges in an adjoining room for verification. The team to correctly solve the most number of problems in the shortest amount of time was deemed the winner. In a close victory over Connecticut College, in which Koparov observed the team did not perform "to the best of their abilities," Middlebury narrowly won the competition, taking home the first prize of $300.

> In a close victory over Connecticut College, in which Koparov observed the team did not perform "to the best of their abilities," Middlebury narrowly won the competition, taking home the first prize of $300.

Middlebury has competed in a number of computer programming competitions such as this one in past years and has shown that it possesses a strong program that can contend with the best other colleges have to offer. For example, the College has competed many times in the ACM (Association for Computing Machinery) International Collegiate Programming Competition, which attracts many of the most widely known and respected colleges from around the world. Competing on the regional level against teams such as the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and Harvard University, Middlebury has even outscored the MIT team in the past. Programming team member Ovsjanikovs competed in the ACM competition last year as a one-man team and still managed to place sixth among many other extremely accomplished three-man teams. Koparov believes this year's programming team showed much potential and hopes the tradition will continue every year.

Jiaxin Fu '03 represented Middlebury College in the poster presentations with his poster entitled "Polygon Placement Algorithms for Convex Polygon and Simple Polygons." Advised by Associate Professor of Computer Science Matt Dickerson, Fu joined in the presentation of nearly 50 posters covering topics in all areas in both math and computer science.

The competition also featured internationally recognized guest

(see Middlebury, page 22)

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What About Bob?

By Bob Wainwright
Columnist

Well, they say all good things must come to an end. Now, if only that were the case with my column. The "good" part, I mean. Because this is the last one. I'm stopping on number 75, the diamond anniversary. And it's a good thing too, because I'm plumb out of ideas. I've been writing these things since freshman year, back when Clinton was President and our national crisis of the moment wasn't SARS, it was Y2K.

I went through some of my early columns and I found I was talking about things like falling through the ceiling in Battell on a Saturday night and filling out my Census 2000 form. I didn't think they were very funny.

Looking over the columns from sophomore year, I noticed that the level of humor was a little more high brow. In September, I seemed to be particularly proud of myself after rhyming Al Gore's campaign running mate with a Coors Light campaign slogan. The rhyme consisted of"Lieberman" and "Hey Beer Man!" In hindsight, I don't really know what to say about that. In November, I devoted half of a column to not being able to ask for Grey Poupon at Fire and Ice, for fear that the waiter would think I was joking. There's nothing I love more than mustard, but my companion was eating while I waited, so I thought it best to ketch up. I also talked about naming my dog, "Peeve," just so I could introduce him as my pet Peeve. And in the beginning of the tennis season, following a long weekend trip to Bates, I wrote my finest column at the time – devoted solely to male flatulence in a cramped van.

Junior year, my first column began, "The school year is upon us, and we all know what that means: three months of beautiful warm weather, lazy afternoons lying on the beach, and vegemite in the cafeteria." I was in Australia. I was also being obnoxious. Even while abroad, I was determined to keep "What About Bob" from going down under.

Which brings me to an important point. Some people have asked me how I got this column in the first place. Did I try out? No. Did I convince an editor they needed a humor column? No. What I did was I applied to be features editor freshman year. And then, when I got the position, I gave myself my own column. It's a good life strategy: put yourself in a position where you can do what you want. It's how Tori Spelling got a starring role on 90210 and Britney Spears got her own movie. It's even how Bush ended up in the oval office.... Who am I kidding? I *own* Crossroads.

While in Australia, I wrote five columns in all, explaining the culture as best I could. In one instance, I described sneezing inside a Range Rover in the outback, followed by an attempt to wipe off the snot by turning on the windshield wipers. I also described bursting into tears when my sky diving tandem instructor told me the chute wasn't opening, only to feel kind of stupid for the four minutes it took us to float gently to the ground.

Once back on my home turf of Middlebury for the rest of my junior year, the ideas started coming again as "What About Bob" broadened its demographic by including such topics as bringing a pet monkey to Angela's, a drunken giraffe in a social house, Osama bin Laden receiving a Massachusetts driver's license, and a piece of wood sitting on my desk that I called "my writer's block."

It was during that time that I also wrote my fiftieth column, which began something like this: "Who could have known back in January of 2000 that my first column, an article that was only read by three people to my knowledge, would eventually grow into a features' fixture with a weekly readership of almost twice that original number? I sure didn't."

Before I knew it, senior year was upon me, and in an effort to make sure "What About Bob" didn't get bumped by a growing number of features columns, I took a page from my own book and applied to be features editor once again. More importantly, the column changed in two ways. 1) It became more focused and opinionated. For instance, in October, I described noticing "Columbus = Genocide" scribbled on a sidewalk in Michigan. It affected me deeply, so I informed the artist that Columbus was born in Genoa, not Genocide.

The second way the column changed was that it shrank, thereby becoming an actual column. To usher in this new format, I wrote a "What About Bob" on brevity, which stated important facts such as... The shortest inaugural address was a mere 135 words, given by George Washington, while the longest was 9,000, given by William Henry Harrison. Of course, Harrison caught pneumonia and died a month later, thereby proving brevity's best.

Since then, I've written 14 more columns, all of which (if you really care) can be downloaded. The address is http://homepage.mac.com/rwainwri/whataboutbob. "What About Bob" on the World Wide WAB. There's something else you should know too. For anyone who's ever wondered how to make a good joke, my advice is to always keep your eyes and ears open and to seek out the ironies in life. They're there, you just have to find them. Don't believe me? Check out the article on "Bowling for Columbine" to the right. And when you've done that, just take a glance at the name of the person whose quote has been highlighted. And there you go — a joke waiting to be made.

And with that, let me just say that I've had a great time the past four years writing for *The Campus*. The friends I've made here I will cherish always. And to everyone who's ever written me or just told me about a certain column, you always made my day. I never know who's reading these things, but there is nothing I love more in life than making someone laugh.

Bowling For Columbine Sells Out

By Peter Yordan
Sports Editor

Last week Middlebury students flocked to Dana Auditorium in unprecedented numbers to see this year's incendiary documentary "Bowling for Columbine." Michael Moore's newest film, which was given two extra showings in Dana Auditorium to accommodate the overflowing throngs of students and local residents who swarmed the theater in hopes of seeing the celebrated and controversial movie, was the first must-see cinematic event at Middlebury in some time. Rarely does a documentary film attract such attention on campus, but then Moore's film is no average documentary. "Bowling for Columbine," this year's Academy Award winning full-lenth documentary, is the most successful non-fiction film of all time, having already grossed over $40 million worldwide since its initial large scale release last fall.

On Monday, April 28 so many eager patrons packed Dana Auditorium that Security had to be called to clear the clogged aisles of seat-less people. A second screening was hastily arranged for the next evening to accommodate the overflow, and when Tuesday night's attendance was equally flush a third showing was added for the next day. Word of mouth quickly spread throughout the college of the must-see film's hard hitting and hilarious look at gun violence in the United States. "I have to say, I was quite surprised at the response from students," said Leger Grindon, professor of film and media culture. "We show a lot of good movies here, but I don't ever remember a documentary getting an audience like this."

Professor Grindon pointed to several factors that may have contributed to the film's on-campus success. He noted that the film is still not out on video and that there was a strong word-of-mouth effect between students talking about Michael Moore's views on guns and American society.

Moore, the principal filmmaker of "Bowling for Columbine," is himself a controversial figure. A famously outspoken member of the American Left, his previous theatrical documentary from 1989, "Roger and Me," a scathing attack upon General Motors for its role in the economic destruction of Moore's hometown of Flint, Mich., was dubiously disqualified from the Academy Awards over accusations that he manipulated events to further his arguments. This year, in his acceptance speech for his Oscar, Moore's harshly critical statements about the Bush Administration were met with a loud mix of cheers and boos from the star-studded audience. "Michael Moore has a fan base now that he's a success. People know Moore's politics and if they subscribe to those they will be attracted to the screenings," said Grindon. "He's one of the few stars of documentary."

Moore himself is everywhere in "Bowling for Columbine." He is a constant presence on camera, the star and principal voice of his film. Moore leaves no doubt in the mind of the spectator that "Bowling for Columbine" is at every moment his film. So overpowering is Moore's role and personality that most Middlebury students based their opinion of the film on their opinion of Moore himself rather than on the content of his arguments. "I exist in my films as a stand-in for the audience," Moore said during an interview with *The Guardian* of London. "I'm just there doing what you probably would like to do and holding back from wanting to choke a few of these people."

Slovenly, unshaven and overweight, Moore assumes an ironic, often hilarious Everyman persona during the film. He has a fine sense of the comic and the absurd, and his ability to underplay ridiculous scenes leads to some of the funniest moments of the movie, like his interview with a discontented Littleton, Colo. youth who was upset because he was only number two or number three on the bomb threat list. Moore set out to demonize the American gun laws as the cause of U.S. gun violence, but soon found that the Second Amendment was a far too simplistic and unsatisfactory cause for bloody massacres like the attack at Columbine. He is merciless in his depiction of American society, brazenly showing footage the 9-11 attacks on New York as the end result of America's international actions. He turns a hard eye on the mass media and the racism and fear that permeates White American society.

"Looking back I realized that's his role to take that extra step that no one else takes."

– Bernadette Gunn '04

Yet Moore's approach is also at times obnoxious and manipulative. He loves to badger his interview victims, at one point harassing a police officer about being unable to read the Hollywood sign through the dense Los Angeles fog. Many students were also uncomfortable with his use of some emotional material where Moore's interviews brought some of his subjects to tears. At one point he films himself comforting the crying principal of a Flint school where a six-year-old boy shot his fellow student. "It was obvious that he really cares a lot, but you wonder if he cared a little more would he have shown that?" said Michael McCarthy '03, a fan of the film. "He needed to have you see that he cared because he was in his hometown."

Bernadette Gunn '04, like many students who studied abroad last semester, first saw "Bowling for Columbine" outside the United States where it was widely distributed. "When I first saw the film I felt like he always went a step too far but looking back I realized that's his role to take that extra step that no one else takes."

Jungle Adventure in Kenyon

Schuyler Van Horn

Fun for all ages *could be found Friday evening in Kenyon Arena. Wet weather forced the annual May Day celebration inside, though judging from these participants, enthusiasm was not dampened.*

Project Bio Bus Demonstrates Renewable Resources

By David Barker
Staff Writer

In the wake of a post-war era, as the United States taps Iraq's prized oil wells to please a nation of Sport Utility Vehicles (SUVs,) 13 Middlebury College students will be pulling out of the Ross parking lot on May 20 in a yellow school bus powered by little more than french fry grease.

Listen to trip organizers Logan Duran's '05.5 and Thomas Hand's '05.5 plans for the 23-day cross-country trip to Conway, Wash., and you'll soon learn that this is not an excuse to party with friends following final examinations.

Though the route might be structured around the nation's climbing destinations, Duran maintains that the emphasis of Project Bio Bus is on environmental awareness. And for good reason too. Five trip members are Environmental Studies majors. In addition, Hand's Winter Term workshop offered a crash course in converting tractor engines to run on vegetable oil. Says project member Julia Proctor '06.5, "It is really important to us that we have fun while supporting and demonstrating the effectiveness of renewable resources." "Climbing was definitely a secondary idea," added Stephen Swank '05.5.

The cross-country science experiment has stops scheduled in West Virginia, Kentucky, Colorado, Wyoming and Utah to climb. During the three-day breaks from the road, the vegetable oil will be monitored for fuel quality, fuel sourcing, range, acceleration, emissions and long-range feasibility.

> The 35-seat bus was purchased in Rhode Island for $1,500, and is on its last legs with 200,000 miles recorded on the odometer. "We have to assume that it will break down at some point."
>
> — Thomas Hand '05.5

Why a school bus? It started with a Volkswagen Jetta, but soon more friends became interested, and Duran and Hand began thinking about a vehicle with more space. The 35-seat bus was purchased in Rhode Island for $1,500, and is on its last legs with 200,000 miles recorded on the odometer. "We have to assume that it will break down at some point," Hand said.

Members of the team have worked on the bus over the past two weeks to ensure that the tanks will operate to "grease" car standards. On Saturday, Middlebury's Vitality of the Artistic Community (VACA) is helping with exterior design. The team hopes to portray the advantages of alternative fuel on the bus to increase exposure. "If we have a bus, we're a billboard on wheels," said Sam Stevenson '05.5.

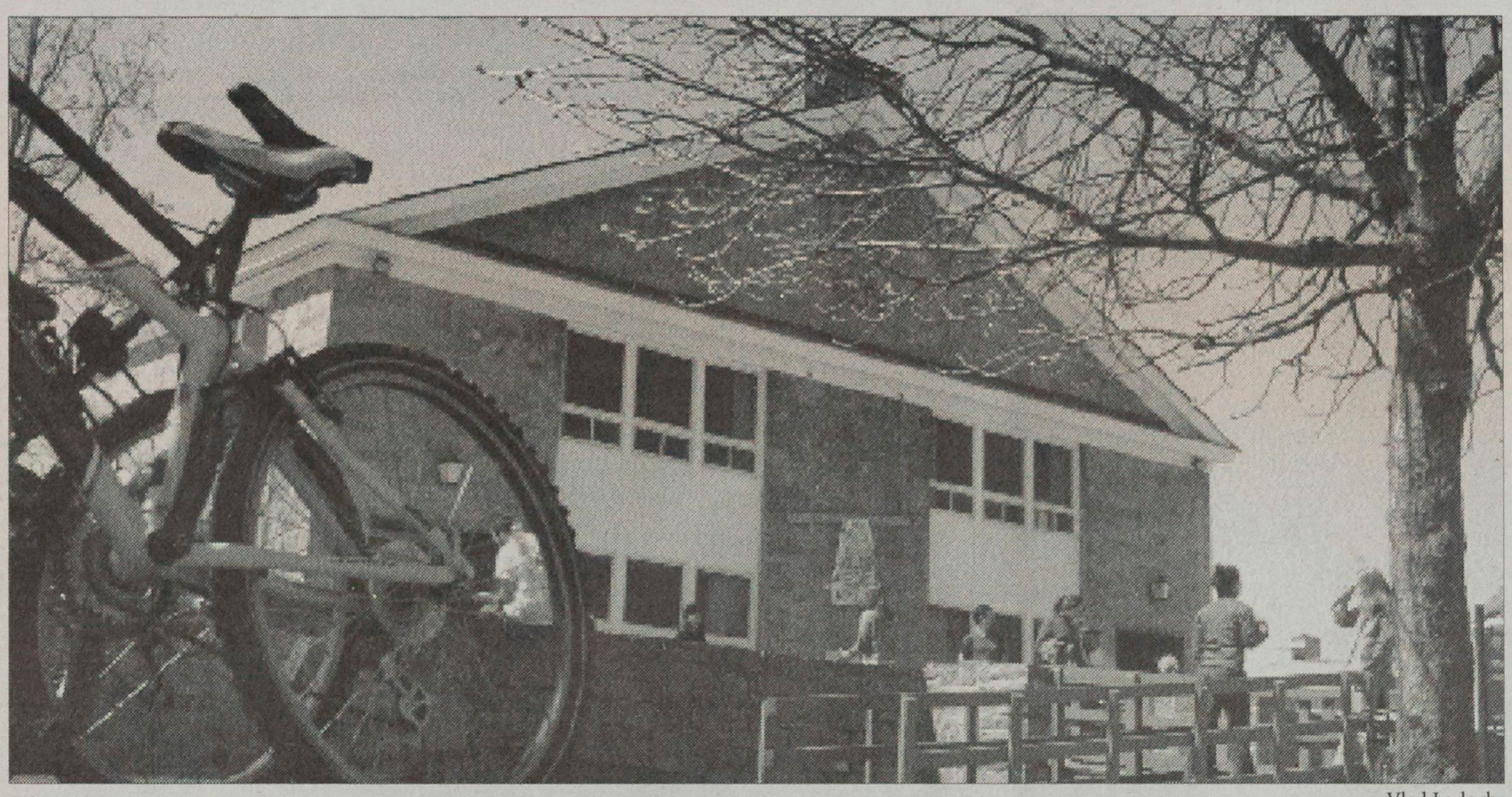
Pumping veggie oil into an engine as a source of alternative energy sounds cutting edge, but it was the intended method of Rudolf Diesel who, at the turn of the 20th century, showed the world an engine that ran on peanut oil at the World's Fair. Since its creation in 1900, diesel fuel has gradually become petroleum based and a scapegoat for air pollution. The distinctive diesel stench and blackish-blue "aura" emitted from the tailpipes of trucks and other cars contributes to the fuel's negative reputation.

Vegetable oil, different from bio-diesel, which is refined with ethanol and lye to remove the glycerin, is a dream for the Department of Environmental Quality. Though the crew will have to start the bus with an auxiliary diesel tank to heat and lower the viscosity of the vegetable oil, a quick flip of a switch triggers the crossover to reused grease. Its carbon neutral emissions contain no sulfur while particulates, carbon monoxide and hydrocarbons are greatly reduced. Hand estimates the bus will do roughly 13 miles to the gallon.

The road west rambles for 4,103 miles, and as the team is

(see Cross-Country, page 22)

Bikes and Al Fresco Dining



Vlad Lodoaba

Spring warmth *draws students and bikers to congregate on the terrace in front of Proctor. Students have made use of the patio and nearby picnic tables for al fresco dining in recent days.*

What About Holt?

By Christian Holt
Stealer of Bob's Jokes

This week, Bob Wainwright, author of "What About Bob?" will be running his last column. Holt's Harangue therefore would like to give a send off to this sultan of sarcasm.

"So long, you old fogey!"

Haha, I kid. But the truth is, Bob's pretty old now. How old? Well, he's old enough to base his column on the title of a movie starring Bill Murray. When he still had hair.

He's been writing his column for years. Many will be telling you that he is stopping his column because he has to work on his American Literature thesis.

The truth is much darker, I'm afraid. You see, they want you to believe that he is retiring because of "academic reasons." The truth is something which I have to call, "Wainwright-gate."

I have a mole in *The Middlebury Campus* inner circle who has told me that Bob is being forced into retirement. During their weekly editorial meetings, in addition to their ritual sacrifice of a chicken, they decided upon Bob's "early retirement."

My source gave his life to bring me this information.

It appears that Bob's going senile. His brain isn't what it used to be, and his typing hands are beginning to disintegrate to dust. To say that he's over the hill might be an understatement. He doesn't play on the tennis team anymore, the other players are afraid he'll break a hip or something. Never being a terrific driver (he failed his test three times), his slackening abilities now render him a threat to anyone on the sidewalk. Due to his longevity, and perhaps his drooling, some are declaring him the Strom Thurmond of columnists.

So yes, age has played a role in Bob's retirement. But who could blame him? He's been giving us the best in middle-brow humor consistently, for what must seem like an eternity. Each week, you open the paper, and sure enough, he's there. Some people wonder how he can do it, week after week.

Answer: no social life. Bob hasn't seen the sun in about two years. He's been pounding columns out week after week, in a sick Dr. Frankenstein-esque obsession. Most of his columns were written months, even years in advance. He no longer cares for deadlines and is now nothing more than a sputtering joke machine. The only time he was let out of *The Middlebury Campus* office dungeon (a.k.a. his lair) was to judge the winter carnival talent show. Even then, he had two wranglers, Mike Kirkland and Francois Clemons keeping him in line.

Yes, Bob has sacrificed a lot for this paper that he loves.

(see Tribute, page 22)

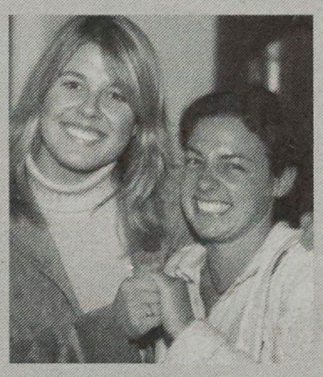
CAMPUS VOICES

What is the Highlight of Your Summer Vacation Plans?

Compiled by Matt Christ **Photos by Vlad Lodoaba**

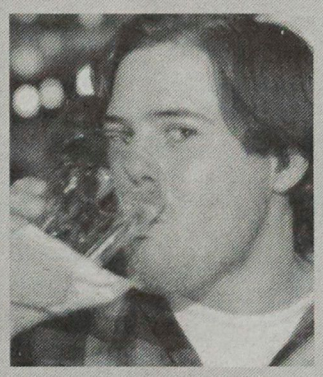
"French language schools. Voulez-vous couchez avec moi ce soir?"

—Kristen Smart '05



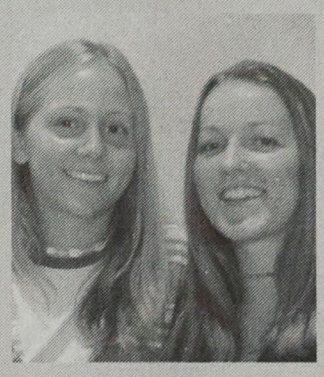
"Marriage."

—Kara Mercer SP
Katherine Decker SP



"Living deep in the woods of Vermont, being one with the locals."

—Chris Catanzano '05.5



"Getting lei-ed. Hawaiian style."

—Kim Hults '06
Ginger Roberts '06.5

College's 'Habitat' Chapter Donates $2,500 to Addison Branch

By Caroline Stauffer
Features Editor

Last Saturday, the Middlebury College Branch of Habitat For Humanity (HFH) donated $2500 to the Addison County branch of HFH.

About half of the money came from HFH fundraisers from previous years, and the other half from this year's fundraising efforts, such as the beans and rice dinner, according to Tim Connolly '04.

Because the Addison County branch of HFH is relatively new, the Middlebury branch has set a goal of helping to expand the organization by doing fundraising and providing student labor to assist in construction. A family and construction site are selected by the local branch.

This year's donation will be used to construct a house off of Route 116 on Mean Lane. Most construction will take place this summer, and the house should be near completion next fall.

"We're trying to make the organization bigger," Connolly said, "and possibly expand construction to two houses each year."

In addition to presenting the check, HFH also hosted an Art Auction on May 2 and 3, and approximately $400 in proceeds from the event have been calculated so far. This money will go toward buying supplies for the current project or toward next year's site.

The art auction is an annual event at Middlebury College, but was sponsored by HFH for the first time last weekend.

Connolly, Emily Egginton '06, Annie Davies '06, Becca Leaphart '03 and Brigitte Frett '06 helped to organize the event.

According to Connolly, the organization did not have an easy time finding students to donate art, and the majority of the 45 to 50 pieces donated came from professional and local artists.

This year's donation will be used to construct a house off of Route 116 on Mean Lane. Most construction will take place this summer.

Still, the auction is considered a success with only eight pieces remaining on Saturday when the auction closed.

"I thought the auction was so successful because of all the students and faculty who donated their art work and their time to help," Davies said.

(continued from page 21)

Julia Randall

Becca Leaphart '03 and Tim Connolly '04 presented a check of $2,500 to the Addison County chapter of Habitat for Humanity on Saturday afternoon in the Chateau.

Cross-Country Bus Trip Promotes Vegetable Oil

aware, BP doesn't have a "fryer" grade of octane at its pumps. Initially, the bus's tank will be filled with the grease that might have been used to cook your french toast sticks at Ross Dining Hall. Two 55-gallon drums of vegetable oil from Ross will serve as reserves.

In Winnetka, Ill, the team plans on making a pit stop at Duran's high school for veggie oil. "Other than that, we're hoping to just roll up to restaurants and say, 'I'll have a cheeseburger, fries and all your veggie oil,'" Duran said. Bio-diesel and regular diesel are last resorts if the vegetable tank runs out.

Financing the project is a recent focus. Each member paid $300 to cover food and other trip expenses, but the team is looking for sponsors to cover costs that will arise along the way.

Brainerd Commons has come forward as have the Chicago-based Archinomics Group and Adellio.com (Fayetteville, N.C.) to provide support. In an attempt to document and publicize the trip, a Web site (www.projectbiobus.com) has been set up that will feature daily journal entries and photos from the road. Sponsors can give to the project via the Web site.

For now, the bus sits at Middlebury Union High School, where the team is busy supping up the interior and engine. Proctor said the group sends about ten e-mails to each other a day to communicate their excitement. Will an old yellow school bus make it from Vermont to Washington and back on alternative fuel?

Said Duran, "I'm looking forward to finding solutions to unexpected problems."

Middlebury Shows Computer Science Smarts

(continued from page 19)

speaker John H. Conway, the John von Neumann Distinguished Professor of Mathematics at Princeton University. Conway is well known for his many publications aimed at research and amateur mathematicians and his development of the Game of Life theory. His presentation at the conference, entitled "How to Beat Children at Their Own Games," offered a comprehensible, yet in no way trivialized, view of the mathematics involved in children's games. For many attending the conference, this presentation capped off as the most notable event of the weekend.

Linda Stern, professor of computer science at the University of Melbourne, Australia, served as the other guest speaker with her presentation on "Multimedia in the Classroom: Visualizing, Animating and Conceptualizing." This talk emphasized the benefits and challenges arising from the use of multimedia animations in augmenting student's education of programs and algorithms.

Overall, the weekend was a great success and offered proof that Middlebury students can hold their own in the computer science and mathematics areas. The participants look forward to future competitions and encourage others to join the team as a way to explore their talents under pressure.

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Squirrel Time

Schuyler Van Horn

Indulging in spring delicacies, *a campus squirrel balances on a blossoming tree branch.*

A Tribute to Bob

(continued from page 21)

But he's pretty damn funny. In my mind, not since Mike Piazza started doing those "1-800-COLLECT" commercials have I seen a funnier New Yorker. In the past, Bob's shared with us his views on the media, instructing tennis, the weather, Australians and drunken giraffes. And he quotes from Britney Spears a great deal. Yes, he's quite cultured. He explains that he's never had a lack of fodder for the column, because things just keep happening to him. But he adds, the absent minded narrator of the column is not a ruse, "it's all true."

The best thing a humorist can do to another is to make fun of him. To quote the Friar's Club, "we only roast the ones we love." So, readers, understand that my attempts at mockery are meant with the best intention. Bob and I have very different styles (his requires talent), but I've learned a lot from the guy. We all have, and laughed along the way too. We all have a favorite among his columns. I'm personally a big fan of his Dr. Seuss column and his kid's tennis one. Hey, 2 out of 75 ain't bad.

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'Memorandum' Rises Above Imaginary Language Barrier

By Alexandra Hay
Staff Writer

"Kavej Hfiz okuby ryzal," was the refrain of the evening the cast of "The Memorandum" rattled off lines in a new, scientifically generated language designed to minimize miscommunication in the workplace.

The Czech artist Vaclav Havel wrote the comedy in 1966, following a long tradition of satirical criticism of the Czechoslovakian government satire.

Upon entering the theater, the set immediately captured attention with its stark walls and the almost painful orderliness of the five desks arranged around the stage. Long, uneven doors ran the entire length of the wall, connecting the immediate stage to a labyrinth of sterile, efficient office spaces that seemed to engulf the entire existence of the characters onstage.

There were rumors of Managing Director Mr. Gross (Ben Correale '03) taking the rubber bank stamp home for his young child to play with, but aside from this unfort sunate incident (and the secretary's daily errands for milk and rolls) no mention of an outside world or family was ever made.

The entire play took place within two identical rooms, and the set remains constant throughout, giving the impression of an endless bureaucratic existence circling through the same space again and again.

The tone of the play is immediately obvious as the play begins with the cleaning women who walk from desk to desk, taking out the garbage and moving it to other trash cans in the office.

From that point on, the performance never dropped its "absurd, ironic" feel and holds the audience delighted and amused if not laughing out loud throughout the entire show.

With deputy director (Christopher Richards '03) persuading Gross to switch places, an endless birthday party offstage in an adjacent office, arguments carried on in the new scientific language and 'the watcher' (Dan Pruksarnukal '03) emerging from a panel in the wall, this parody of office life was never dull.

Choosing a comedy is somewhat of a change for the drama department, which often seems to gravitate towards the more serious plays, and as Alex Rhinehart '05 commented, "after so many dark and depressing plays, it's nice to see something a little lighter."

Most theater-goers shared this opinion, although Nora Williams '06 did point out that the comedy had "dark undertones," while being "very well-acted, and hilarious to watch."

The director of the comedy, Professor of Theatre Richard Romagnoli, chose this particular play because he was drawn to Havel's protagonists, finding them "easy to identify with, because they are actually tied up in knots, unable to act on their principles and completely boxed in while truly concerned about whether they are doing the right thing."

Although written specifically to critique the Czech government in the 60s, Romagnoli said he believed that the play is still relevant because it addresses questions of "humanism and technology."

The only complaint about the play concerned the long running time: after two hours and 15 minutes of performance with a ten minute intermission, audience members left the theatre at 10:30 wondering, "Where has the night gone?"

Near the end of the play the plot began to repeat itself in a cycle that replaced Ms. P with Ms. C and the language "podidapi" with "corukor" (please excuse the phonetic spelling). The message of futility and endlessly running around in circles became over-emphasized and the absurdly comic nature of the play lost its charm of novelty. But that is the fault of the script, not the interpretation, and overall the play was truly enjoyable.

Vlad Lodoaba

'The Memorandum' delighted a packed audience last weekend with its sharp commentary on Czech government.

Sepomana: The Curiously Successful Music Fest

By Richard Lawless
Staff Writer

First there was Woodstock. Then came Lollapalooza and then Woodstock II. And now there's Sepomana, Middlebury College's own annual celebration of indie music. Sponsored by WRMC 91.1 FM, the College's radio station, Sepomana rocked the campus this past weekend.

Going strong in its third year, Sepomana broke with tradition and was split over two days — instead of being consolidated into one — with visiting artists performing Friday night and student bands taking the stage Saturday afternoon.

Artists as diverse as instrumental post-rockers Cul de Sac, hip-hop duo Roosevelt Franklin, singer/songwriter Josh Ritter and indie rockers the French Kicks ventured to Vermont to perform in Coltrane Lounge on Friday night.

Although the doors opened at seven, the music didn't commence until around quarter to nine, with Cul de Sac kicking off the evening's festivities. The Chicago natives, known for their highly innovative, genre-bending compositions, churned out waves of intense noise, which was surprisingly abrasive, given the more reserved nature of their recorded material.

Drummer Jon Proudman played a racing beat, as guitarist Glenn Jones and bassist Chris Fujiwara interwove their instruments with impressive skill. The band played for a solid half an hour but had to cut their set short when Jones' amp blew out.

Jones apologized and told the crowd that they had just finished an extensive European tour and that their equipment was a tad worn.

Forming in 1990, Cul de Sac have been together for 13 years and have released six albums, including "Death of the Sun" this past February. Playing at colleges is not an unusual occurrence for Cul de Sac, as their 2002 album "Immortality Lessons" was comprised of the band performing live at Brandeis University's radio station.

Next up was Roosevelt Franklin, an underground rap duo composed of Mr. Len and Kimani. The crowd responded warmly to the group's highly infectious beats and witty, entertaining lyrics, especially when the group pulled out their song "Muppet Love."

An east coast rapper, Mr. Len was formerly the DJ in the highly influential trio Company Flow from 1992 to 1999, when the group disbanded.

Two years after the group's dissolution, Mr. Len released his first solo record, "Pity the Fool: Experiments in Therapy Behind the Mask of Music While Handing Out Dummys." Rapper Kimani was formerly in the underground rap group Masterminds, formed at Wesleyan University in 1994.

The collaboration between Kimani and Mr. Len is a fusion of the charisma of old-school rap with a knack for experimentation and pushing the boundaries of hip-hop, while still keeping the music light and entertaining. An album under the Roosevelt Franklin moniker is due out later this year, and as the group asserts, "It will be amazing!"

The third act of the evening was Josh Ritter. Backed by a keyboardist, a bassist with handlebar moustache and a drummer, the Idaho native won over the audience with his charming alt-country and contemporary folk music.

The band fleshed out the songs, giving them a propulsive, energetic live feel. Often compared to fellow alt-country superstar Ryan Adams, of Whiskeytown fame, Ritter's music is personal and touching, as well as highly acclaimed, which helped him secure the opening spot for Bob Dylan's last tour. Thus far, Josh Ritter has released two albums, his most recent, "The Golden Age of Radio," being a college radio favorite last year.

For his final song, Ritter took the stage alone, opting for the stripped-down, acoustic album version of perhaps his best known song, "Come and Find Me." Boasting a sweet melody and earnest lyrics, the song was touching and ended Ritter's set on a solemn note.

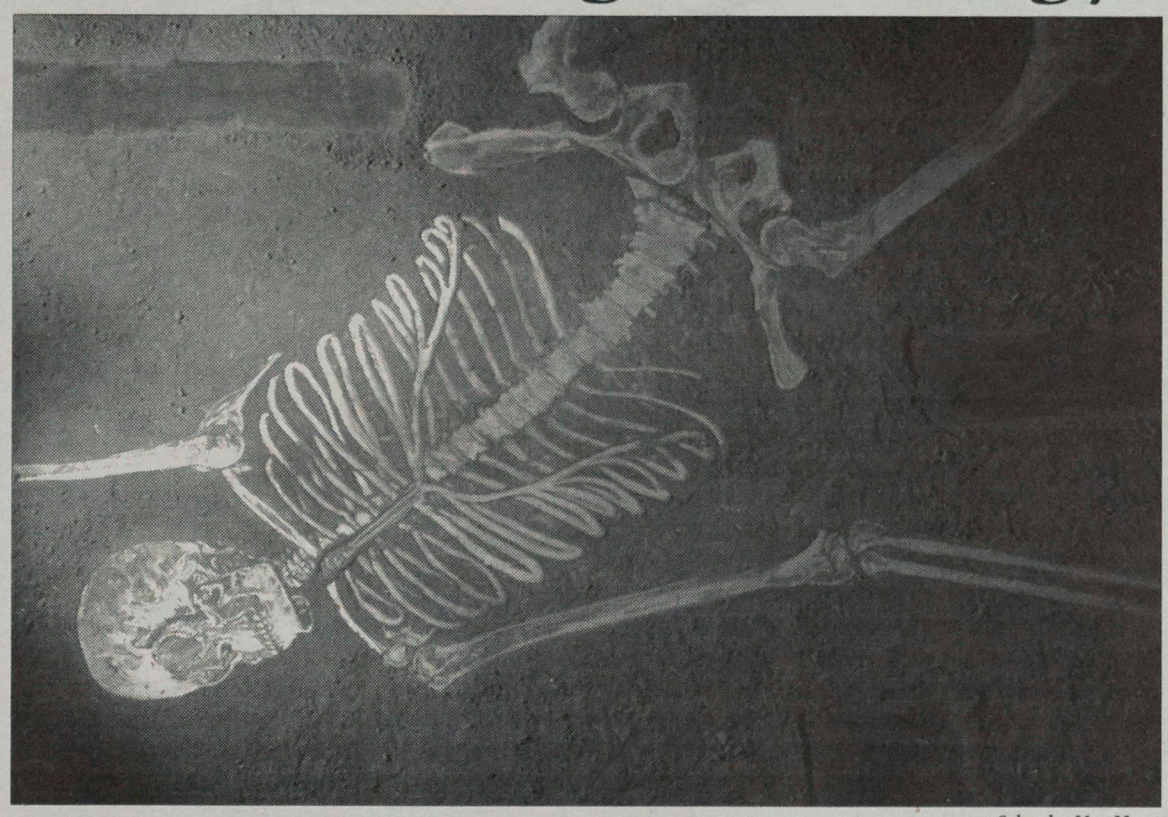
The headliners of the evening, the French Kicks, took the stage close to midnight. Part of the current garage-rock/retro revival of indie rock, the French Kicks sound like a catchier, more artsy version of the Strokes, playing such contagious songs as "Close to Modern" and "Wrong Side" from their debut album "One Time Bells," released last year.

Driven by propulsive beats and infectious, bouncy bass lines, the French Kicks' taut rhythm section made the music highly danceable, which went over quite well with the crowd. Officially from Brooklyn, the French Kicks'

(see Sepomana, page 28)

'Digging' Unearths Organic Energy

By Michael Hatch
Staff Writer



Schuyler Van Horn

"Digging," an exhibit featuring artwork by seniors Joseph Schine and Sally Olson, combined furious energy with precise technical skills, resulting in an impressive collection of pieces.

The title "Digging" is the only word appropriate to describe the joint showing of artworks by Joseph Schine '03 and Sally Olson '03, which opened last Friday in the Johnson Gallery.

The furious energy of Schine's drawings, videos and dirt sculpture matched Olson's layered and design-oriented works, creating a dynamic that was both organic and welcoming.

For Schine's work, the metaphor of digging is even literal. In "Unearthed," a dirt-drawing of a massive skeleton designed on gesso, forms are actually excavated from a layer of dirt with tools as small as a toothbrush.

Like an archaeological excavation on Johnson's second floor, Schine's giant skeleton sits above the floor surface, but by clever manipulation of perspective the skeleton descends deep into the perceived space of the floor.

The dirt becomes believable, as if the linoleum has been removed, and while digging, the artist has found the remains of some long-dead Titan.

In "Unearthed," Schine's technical control is most visible. From the recession of scale to the finely detailed and modeled bone-structure, including smaller plates of an embryo and a human-sized pelvic bone which lay over top the skeleton, the draftsmanship is beautiful.

This concentration on draftsmanship carries over into Shine's untitled series of wall drawings in marker, acrylic, pen and charcoal, as well as added sculptural elements surrounding three sides of the skeleton on the second floor.

Schine drew the series like graffiti directly onto the framed white pushboard walls that surround the atrium. The composition has no center or focus, and instead acts as a glimpse into Schine's process of creation.

A loosely posted grid of photocopies from a handful of drawings, which culminates in a large-scale drawing, hang on the south wall. These drawings make the conglomeration of the photocopied ideas. Each single drawing is done directly onto the wall and spills over the framed space onto the backing wall.

As the 30-odd photocopies abut each other, sometimes repeating the same image several times in a row, they act like the flickering of impulses — like visions of what the final image will be as it emerges into form as the wall drawing.

In a series of slips that accompany his figural drawings in the Johnson Gallery, Schine describes his process in terms of its speed, spontaneity and use of little time and a lot of space.

While this free-flowing process, based on impulse and instinct, could easily disintegrate into nothingness, Schine brings a sense of cohesion to his forms in the end, and in his series of drawings the accompanying video and sculpture work, he creates a sense of energy that feeds the viewer.

Olson's prints and paintings are similar to Schine's work in their energy, but the quality of that energy is more subdued.

In contrast to Schine's aggressive drawing style, Olson's works have a welcoming nature — a warm but delicate, familiar feeling, which she describes as focusing on "layers, pattern, design and repetition."

The composition has no center, no focus, and instead acts as a glimpse into Schine's process of creation.

In "Paris Tree Grate," Olson manipulates ripped fragments of a photographed grate, gluing the forms into a vertical band and then sewing over the seams with blue thread, framing the photo elements with a similarly stitched brown border.

Several layers work to create the piece's dynamism. First are the two layers within the original photograph. The image of the grate and the small plants that emerge from its openings give a sense of dimension within the flattening photographic medium.

Then, as the pieces were ripped and re-glued, a degree of warping occurred, giving the flattened image a sense of volume.

Finally comes the sewing layer, done on top of the now-voluminous photograph to add one last and subtle layer that draws attention both to the construction of the image and to its nature as material, something to be manipulated and reconstructed.

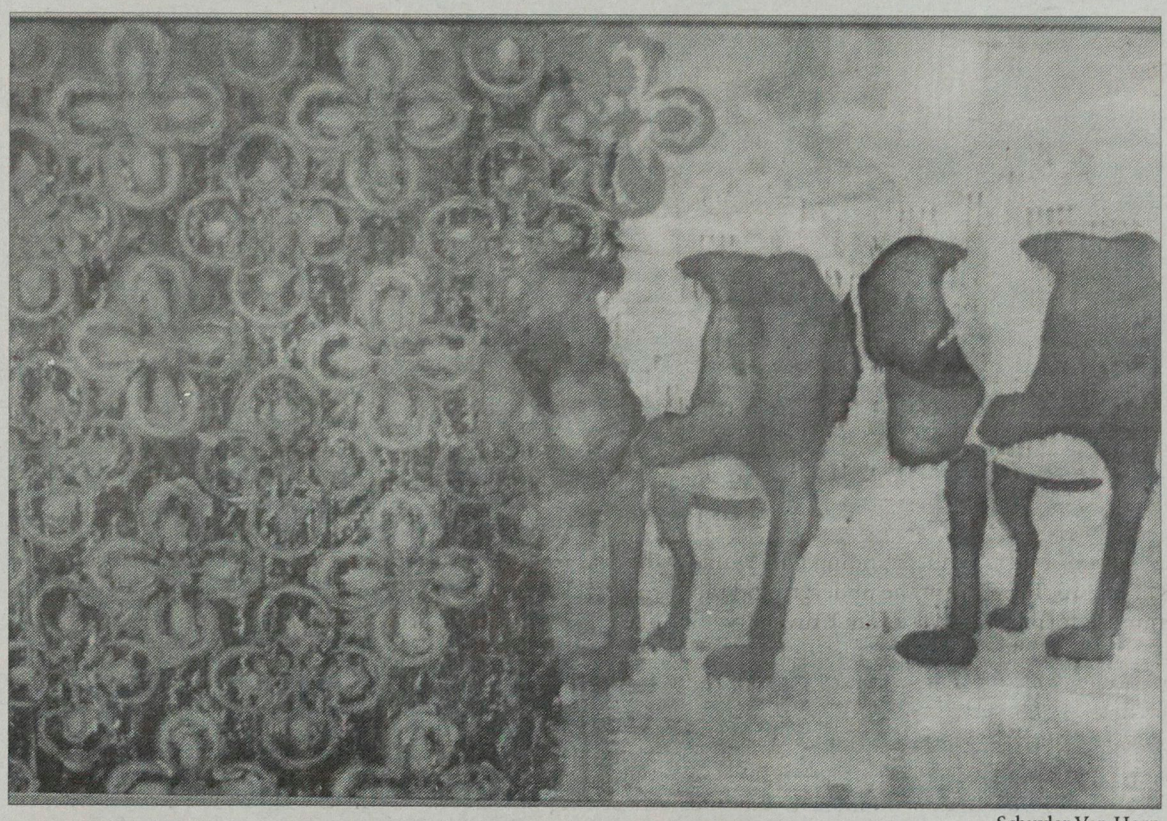
In "Neon," an oil painting on canvas, Olson again draws attention to the layers within her work, especially between flat surface and implied volume. In this piece she works with two distinct layers.

The first is a dry landscape with a low horizon line that makes a large human-made structure in the right foreground seem imposing and monumental.

The scene feels both deserted and desert-like. The squat horizon is the simple brown tone of exposed earth or wet sand, and the thinly applied pthaylo blue sky carries no relief, no cooling tones. Laid over the entirety of this dry atmosphere is a cotton-candy-pink pattern of a tropical bird with flowers, drawn from some scrap of wallpaper.

This odd shade of pink provides cool contrast and release from the scorched landscape. Ironically, both elements, the landscape and the design, are drawn from the same source that feeds much of the work Olson shows — an abandoned house she had discovered in Weybridge, filled with vintage wallpaper and newspapers.

It is worth visiting Johnson this week for both the brisk, energized draftsmanship of Shine's art and Olson's methodical compositions, which vibrate with energy and, as they claim, are sure to "dig" up a response.



Schuyler Van Horn

Sally Olson '03 uses a multi-layering technique in much of her art. The overlayed wallpaper designs were inspired by the interior of an old farmhouse in Weybridge

literary picks

By Edward Pickering
News Editor

Out of Africa

by Isak Dinesen
Random House, 1938

From 1914 until 1931, Danish aristocrat Baroness Karen Blixen owned and operated a coffee plantation in Kenya. Like Elspeth Huxley's "The Flame Trees of Thika," previously reviewed in this column, Blixen's "Out of Africa" pulses with life as the author transposes the rhythms of the African landscape into words. Fairly serious in tone, Blixen's memoir outweighs Huxley's. In the scope of its subject matter "Out of Africa" surpasses "The Flame Trees of Thika."

Unlike her English counterpart, Blixen (who wrote under the pseudonym Isak Dinesen) was an adult during the years her memoir encompasses. Blixen, the reader quickly learns, was an exceptionally capable woman, managing the plantation herself, adjudicating disputes among the native workers, eradicating predators and handling the thousand different exigencies which an African planter must be prepared to face. Comprised of chapters that are often short in length and almost always narrowly focused on specific incidents, Blixen's memoir covers a lot of ground nonetheless, figuratively and literally. Blixen collocates descriptions of wildlife with accounts of her African workers, a shooting accident with an exploration of the Masai Reserve adjoining her property. Throughout, Blixen's narrative voice is meditative, her eye perceptive as a painter's.

See if Blixen's opening doesn't grip you right off the bat:

"I had a farm in Africa, at the foot of the Ngong Hills. The Equator runs across the highlands, a hundred miles to the North, and the farm lay at an altitude of over six thousand feet. In day-time you felt that you had got high up, near to the sun, but the early mornings and evening were limpid and restful, and the nights were cold.

"The geographical position, and the height of the land combined to create a landscape that had not its like in all the world. There was no fat on it and no luxuriance anywhere; it was Africa distilled up through six thousand feet, like the strong and refined essence of a continent."

The British colonial government, under whose aegis Blixen and Huxley lived and prospered, plays a far greater role in the former's memoir than the latter's. Blixen addresses the interaction between native and colonist; the clash of cultures is palpable.

A note of sadness, suggested by the memoir's title, underlies "Out of Africa." This note swells in the fifth and final volume, the chapter headings of which read, "Hard Times," "Death of Kinanjui," "The Grave in the Hills," "Farah and I Sell Out" and "Farewell." A meditative elegy to Africa, Karen Blixen's memoir reflects as positively on herself as her adopted home.

Chamber Singers End Year on High Note

By Laura Rockefeller
Staff Writer

As the lights dimmed in the Center for the Arts Concert Hall on Saturday night, an expectant hush fell over the audience, but for a few moments the eager listeners were kept in suspense.

Then, from the back of the room, the haunting notes of John Tavener's "Song for Athene" drifted over the heads of the audience and swelled to fill the vast space.

So began the Middlebury College Chamber Singers annual spring concert, entitled "A Choral Potpourri: Music from the 17th to the 20th Century." It truly was a potpourri of styles.

The choir showed its versatility in performing a repertoire that ranged from the sublime sacred music of Anton Bruckner, to secular pieces such as Ralph Vaughan Williams's whimsical "Over Hill, Over Dale."

One of the highlights of the concert was the performance of Maurice Duruflé's gorgeous "Quatre motets sur des thèmes Grégoriens," which is remarkable for its simplicity and elegance.

Throughout the four motets, the sopranos expressed a purity and clarity that seemed almost ethereal as they sustained the chant melody while the other parts came in and out, adding a wonderful depth and richness to the piece.

The singers performed with equal feeling and power the reflective and longing motet "Ubi Caritas," based on the liturgy for Maundy Thursday, and the exultant and joyful "Tu es Petrus," which takes its text from the Feast of St. Peter's Chains.

The four voice parts blended beautifully and came in and out seamlessly as they echoed and complimented each other.

The pace of the concert was changed with American composer Morten Lauridsen's more lighthearted "Les Chansons des Roses." The choir really seemed to enjoy singing the lilting melody and beautiful poetry of the piece, which is a setting of the poetry of Rainer Maria Rilke.

The contrast in dynamics and mood within the piece as a whole, and within the individual movements, especially "De ton rêve trop plein," was very striking and masterfully executed.

Then the imitation and echoing of the soprano and tenor parts during "La rose complète" drew out the mysterious and almost nostalgic quality of the piece.

The audience seemed to particularly take pleasure in the performance of Ralph Vaughn Williams's setting of the traditional favorite "Greensleeves," which the Chamber Singers presented as part of their selection from the British choral tradition. The beautiful soprano descent added by Vaughn Williams was enchanting.

The way that the melody passed from the men to the women seemed to create a dialogue within the piece and highlighted the bittersweet feeling of yearning that pervades the song.

The parts flowed into each other with a surprising correspondence of depth and tenderness in the singing of both men and women.

The way that the melody passed from the men to the women seemed to create a dialogue within the piece and highlighted the bittersweet feeling of yearning that pervades the song.

It was clear that the audience had enjoyed the evening by the enthusiastic applause that greeted the conclusion of the concert.

The audience was so persistent that The Singers performed one encore, Healey Willan's "Rise up My Love," which conductor Jeff Rehbach called a favorite of the group. It is easy to understand why.

The piece was disarmingly simple, but lovely and warm.

The Chamber Singers next performance will be their Annual Commencement Weekend Concert on Friday, May 23 at 8 pm in the CFA Concert Hall.

'Twist' Turns Heads at Competition

By Pascal LaFountain
Staff Writer

Everyone knows that sex sells, but who knew that sex could win a German theater competition?

The German play "Twist," written by Arthur Schnitzler and performed on campus three weeks ago, went on to win the annual German National Theater Festival and Competition at Mount Holyoke College.

"Twist" is the second production that Arthur Schnitzler specialist and Assistant Professor of German Bettina Matthias has directed at Middlebury College. Assistant Director Carina Beyer '99 and actors Adam Rahal '05 and Alex Rhinehart '05 are veterans of the national theater festival, which Middlebury also won with a Schnitzler play last year.

German Teaching Assistant Yasmin Rabiyan and Visiting Lecturer in German Christina Wegel also seved as assistant directors. The cast consisted of seven German students: aside from Rahal and Rhinehart, Richard Lutjens '03, Elif Kiratli '03, Colin Ashby-Kuhlman '05, Ryan Gamble '06 and Katherine Peters '06 acted in the risqué play.

What gave the Middlebury theater troupe the upper hand? "The sex," said Gamble. Kiratli claimed it was the play's humor, the "action" on stage and the fact that the play included several scenes written by Ashby-Kuhlman.

Matthias praised the group's communal feeling and found that the bond between her and the actors represented the entire German "posse" at Middlebury. She counted the trip to Mount Holyoke as one of her "best personal college-related experiences of this semester" and gave credit to "both the talents and the commitment of our students."

Matthias emphasized that the play was "infused" with energy throughout its preparation, to the point where Christina and I both felt goose bumps during one scene on stage."

(see Twist, page 30)

Courtesy

Alex Rhinehart '05 and Rick Lutjens '03 perform in the award-winning German play, "Twist."

Blowin' Indie Wind

Roberts Cradles Scottish Tradition on Second Solo Album

By Erika E. Mercer
Arts Editor

Picture the rural landscape of the Scottish Highlands — rolling green hills spotted with purple and gold wildflowers. White and gray rocks poking from mounds of dewy grass. Hidden glens enclosed by dense, misty fogs. Billowing clouds casting spotted shadows in the valleys. Tiny houses with faded red roofs leaning into the soft hillsides.

The Artist: Alasdair Roberts

The Album: "Farewell Sorrow"

April 22, 2003

Through his folk songs, Glasgow native Alasdair Roberts takes his listener through a tour of this very Scottish landscape. Along the way, he points to isolated houses, telling tales of each home's inhabitants — mournful tales of painful loss, unrequited love, desperate passion and lingering hardships.

He shows that these tales are not new, but have been passed from generation to generation, a long tradition of the handing down of sorrow. Since his beginnings as a musician, Roberts has embraced his Scottish heritage.

Previous to releasing his two solo albums, Roberts became known as the vocalist in his band, Appendix Out, with which he recorded three albums, "The Rye Bears A Poison" in 1997, "Daylight Saving" in 1999 and "Night Is Advancing" in 2001. Additionally, Roberts collaborated with the band, Songs: Ohia, making appearances on several of their albums. Roberts' first solo release, "The Crook of My Arm," debuted in April 2003 on Secretly Canadian, marking his departure from Appendix Out.

Drawing on traditional English, Scottish and Irish ballads, Roberts innovatively interpreted and adapted their melodies and lyrics to appeal to a modern, indie-rock audience. While still respectfully preserving much of the pure beauty of the traditional folk compositions, he transported the songs to the present day, proving the timelessness of the ballads and their dark, sad themes.

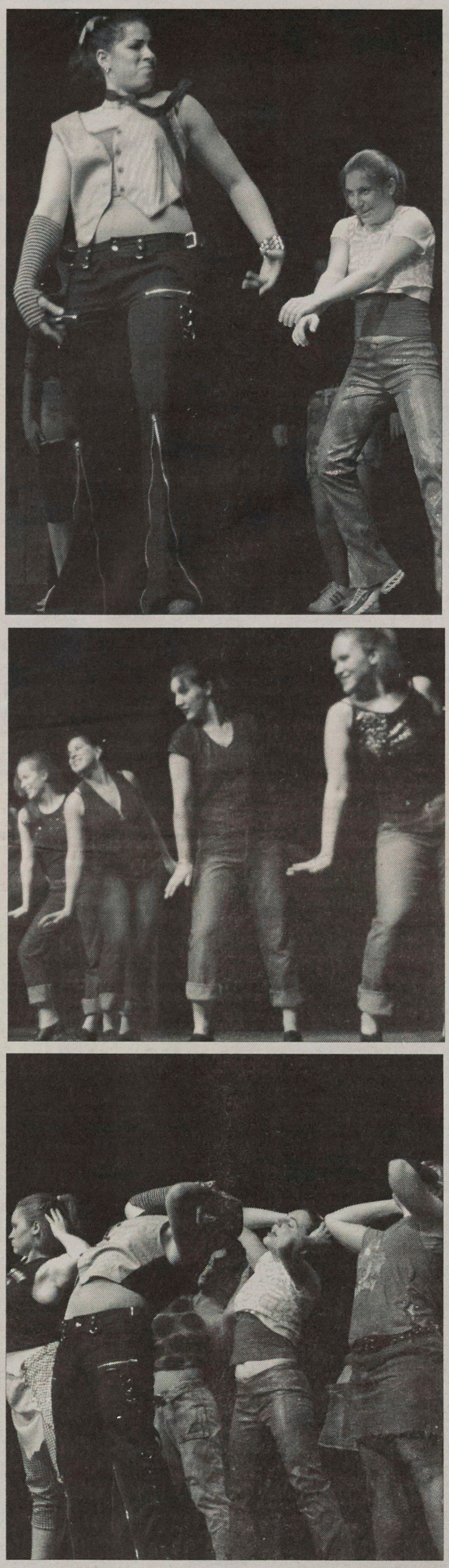
"The Crook of My Arm" presented songs that were, as one critic termed it, "rooted in the past, but alive in the present."

"Farewell Sorrow," Roberts' second and most recent solo album, released in April 2003 on Drag City (Caroline), continues the tour through the Scottish landscape and folk songs begun in "The Crook of My Arm." While he does not make as direct use of the traditional ballads, he still borrows melodies and lyrics, evoking the same heritage of music and culture.

Despite that some critics have attacked Roberts for twisting traditional songs to fit a modern audience, and others have scorned

(see Alasdair, page 30)

Tap Girls with Attitude



Julia Randall

Clad in everything from eighties dance ensembles to sultry red mini-dresses, *the tapstresses of Middlebury College's tap dancing troupe, On Tap, delivered an energetic end-of-year show last Thursday night in McCullough Social Space. They rocked to Elvis Presley's "Jail House Rock" and shimmied to *NSync's more recent "Pop." Unlike shows in recent years, this semester's performance boasted mostly tap dancing, leaving room for one jazz piece.*

Richards: Made for the Stage

Actor Captures the Magic of Theater

By Lucie Greene
Staff Writer

Schuyler Van Horn

Actor Christopher Richards '03 is heading to Columbia University after graduation to pursue a Master of Fine Arts degree.

The range of talent at Middlebury College is often taken for granted or at least forgotten in our hectic day-to-day life.

It's funny to hear people drop into conversations that they were the Olympic finalist for gymnastics a year before or the chief founder of an organization to help disadvantaged children learn English — achievements spoken of as nonchalantly as if they were describing having gone on vacation or taken a senior seminar.

This was particularly striking upon meeting Christopher Richards '03, a lead in the faculty show "The Memorandum" and director of the recent adaptation of "4.48 Psychosis." With casual banter, between discussing coffee favorites and English slang (after his time spent in England), he mentioned just a few small facts about his accomplishments.

These being (of course mentioned very modestly) that he was the highest paid actor in Minneapolis before coming to the College, that he's acted with the Royal Shakespeare Company in England during his year abroad and that he gained admission to Columbia University's Master of Fine Arts acting program.

Over the aforementioned coffee and banter, *The Middlebury Campus* wanted to see if any more of these little instances would drop into conversation. Oscars? Golden Globes? Who knows.

The Middlebury Campus: So Chris, where are you from?

Christopher Richards: I've lived in a suburb of Minneapolis, Minn. all of my life.

The Campus: And how did you first get interested in acting?

C.R.: Minneapolis has a fantastic theater community. They used to have the most theaters per capita of any city in the United States, with the exception of New York City, of course! When I was little my parents would take me to the theaters in town. They just seemed to be these incredible, magical places.

The Campus: When you got to Middlebury, how did you first get involved?

C.R.: I worked for the Guthrie Theater when I was a senior in high school and was being recruited by some theater conservatories.

However, I had been doing shows so much that I was at the risk of being an actor whose art imitated art. You know? Since I didn't have many experiences outside of the theater community. The director of casting there recommended Middlebury, based on its reputation for turning out intelligent, skilled actors.

SPOTLIGHT ON
Christopher Richards '03

Once I got here I wanted to do things right away but I couldn't get cast to save my life! It was really depressing after doing so well in Minneapolis.

In my first semester as a freshman I hadn't been cast in the freshman show but I had a call asking me to return to Minneapolis to do a new work by John Guare, the playwright behind "Six Degrees of Separation." (Translation: a big deal.)

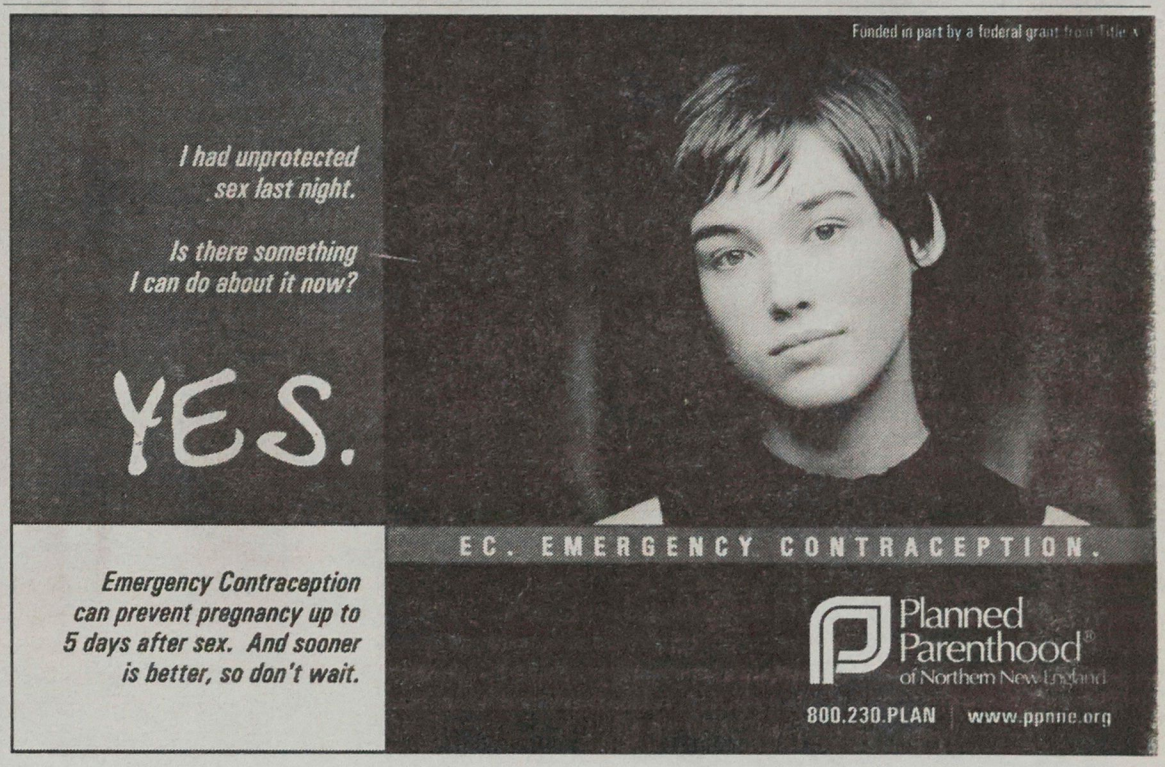
Part of the problem was that I looked so young, and I have a very specific type that doesn't work well for a lot of shows that students were doing here. Andy Mitton, a great playwright, though, and young director, took a chance on me during my sophomore year though. And things took off from there, I suppose.

The Campus: You've also spent time abroad haven't you? How did you find that? What sort of experiences did you gain?

C.R.: Part of the reason I decided to go abroad and not take the role I had been cast in the faculty show was that I was offered the opportunity to study with Royal Shakespeare Company in England (through my connections with the Guthrie Theater).

But going abroad I knew would

(see Richards, page 28)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Cabaret Jazzes Up the Center for the Arts

By Venessa Wong
Staff Writer

Maryleen Emeric '03 opened last Wednesday's Jazz Cabaret with an animated rendition of "Teach Me Tonight," captivating the attention of an intimate audience seated around candlelit tables by Rehearsals Café.

Emeric was one of eight performers at the event. The calm, cultured atmosphere their voices generated transformed the Center for the Arts into the perfect venue for lovers of late night jazz.

The other performers were Padma Govindan '05, Alexander Rossmiller '04, exchange student Lucie Greene, Retta Leaphart '06, Yigit Irde '05 on drums, Christopher Lizotte '06 on sax, Colin Meltzer '05 on sax, and alumnis Jeff Vallone on bass. They experimented both playfully and proficiently in genres ranging from ballads to blues.

The musicians all acted with an air of casualness and individuality, incorporating gesture and expression into their pieces and offering a fresh perspective on musical performance, which often suffer an overstaged, artificial and stiff texture.

Says Govindan, who's upbeat delivery of "I Can't Take You Nowhere" sent the audience into a head-bopping, toe-tapping whirl, "Jazz is by nature fluid, and requires a lot of imagination. This is not to say that classical music does not require the same level of creativity and demand innovation, particularly with regards to interpretation, but that demand is very different in nature from jazz."

"My favorite thing about jazz is the feeling I get every time I sing," says Emeric. "No matter whatever else is going on my life or how much I have to do, when I am singing jazz and concentrating on the aesthetic beauty of creating my own music — all the other stuff just melts away!"

The Cabaret was a means of collaboratively showcasing the talents the students generated over the semester through private lessons with Dick Forman, a member of the Music Department's Applied Faculty.

"It's important for people who study the performing arts to have a chance to perform. Jazz in the practice room is only a hint of what can be created with a band in front of an audience."

The musicians all acted with an air of casualness and individuality, incorporating gesture and expression into their pieces.

Greene, who is studying at the College on exchange from England, says, "My only outlet [in England] was getting up in jazz bars occasionally and singing a number or two, so when I came to Middlebury on exchange and saw there were lessons I jumped at the chance. There isn't really much in England in the way of Jazz education, or opportunities to sing Jazz unless you commit entirely to a Music Degree. I think a lot of good singers don't end up doing it because there is so little opportunity."

The performances were an impressive displayed these musicians' command of technique and musical freedom and offered a revitalizing vibe to Middlebury College arts.

Senior Dance Performance

Vlad Lodoaba

Showcasing their senior work on the Center for the Arts Dance Stage on April 25 and 26, *Katie MacDonald, Meg Neville and Tori Sikes each presented her own interpretation of contemporary dance.*

Richards Turns on Charm

(continued from page 27)

be a fantastic experience no matter what. I didn't know how much theater I would end up doing, but once the year was over I did three shows there: Wilde's "Salome," "Spring Awakening" and "Sexual Perversity in Chicago."

Actors and directors tend to go about things a bit differently there. There's less of this obsession with emotional commitment and honesty and a different, more relaxed approach. American actors seem to have better training but they aren't pragmatic like the Brits are.

There's often too much "going back to that painful moment in your dead grandmother's kitchen" and not enough of what actually works onstage.

Theater in Britain I think is a bit more vibrant than the mainstream theater here. It seems very socially conscious, progressive and engaging. I was really excited by the community there, and I'd like to go back and work.

The Campus: You just finished the run of "The Memorandum," the faculty show. Did you enjoy doing that?

C.R.: "The Memorandum" has been an interesting experience for me. I prepared the role in a way that was very outside-in. I would start with certain gestures and motions, as well as specific actions, physically discovering the character first before informing those choices with emotional justification later.

Usually I work in the opposite direction, but partially [Director] Richard [Romagnoli's] style and the chameleonic qualities of the character I was playing dictated this as the way to go about it.

The Campus: Where do you see yourself headed?

C.R.: Next year I'll be at Columbia in New York pursuing my MFA in acting. It's a great program and I'm excited to be a part of it. Anne Bogart, Andrei Serban and Kristin Linklater — three very important progressive theater minds — are the main teachers in the program.

The program is based on experiment and play. I doubt that I'll be one of those actors headed for film or TV. Theater is what I love and what I think is the most fulfilling for me. I would like to work in a socially conscious theater — something I think Broadway and the mainstream repertory theaters avoid too much.

I mean, how can we have a theater for the people when Broadway tickets cost over 100 bucks for the cheap seats?

I also worry that theater isn't establishing itself as enough of a separate and distinct art form. Strict naturalism and other elements are often something that can be better achieved by film.

Theater has specific abilities that make it unique and vital as an art form and part of its the collective experience it has with its audience. I want to do work that both serves and provokes the audience.

The Campus: Well, good luck.

C.R.: Thanks.

Sepomana Festival: From Rap to Rock

(continued from page 24)

original incarnation was composed of guitarist/singer Matt Stinchcomb, drummer Nick Strumpf and bassist Jamie Krents, all from Washington, D.C.

It was when the trio moved to New York that they found their fourth member, guitarist/singer Josh Wise. Finishing with a reprise of "Close to Modern," the band ended their set with a bang.

The student portion of Sepomana kicked off around noon inside McCullough Social Space, due to the wet grounds from Friday's rain. The first band, Lobster Duey, consisting of Will Roberts '03 and Zachary Ambrose '04, used ambient guitar noise to complement their minimalist, haunting compositions.

Shari Poons and the Funk Brigade took the stage next, opening with a cover of Portishead's "Strangers," featuring Sara Stranovsky '04 on vocals.

Sophomore Ari Joseph's saxophone complemented the tight rhythms of drummer Matt Coons '04 and the funky keyboard playing of Samuel Stevenson '05.

Finishing up with a cover of Stevie Wonder's "Superstition," Shari Poons next gave the stage to punk group, The Royal We. A blend of emo and ska, The Royal We came complete with a "Super Mario Brothers 2"-styled banner hung in back of them.

Frontman Daniel Roda '04 howled out the lyrics while drummer David Tierney '04 thrashed away on the drums, reinforcing the group's high energy.

Penelope was up next, playing their usual gorgeous melodies, with sophomore Andrew Bishop's stunning vocals mixing wonderfully with the chiming guitars and dual keyboards of Matthew Longo '04 and Michael Rimoin '05, while Ryan Abernathey's '04 drumming remained top-notch.

Middlebury College alums Hijack the Disco were the final band to perform, headlining the student section. Now based out of California, the trio played a catchy collection of blistering rock that still sounded slick enough for radio exposure.

With eight bands performing to highly receptive crowds in a little under 24 hours, 2003's Sepomana was a smashing success.

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'Fool for Love' Flirts with Taboos

By Crystalyn Radcliffe
Staff Writer

Cowboy boots, country music, lassoes, shotguns and an incestuous relationship between two half-siblings — sounds like a recipe for good, old, stereotypical "Southern" fun.

While definitely ripe with humorous moments, the performance of Sam Shepard's "Fool for Love" was anything but one-dimensional.

Playing on the stereotypes of Southern life, the cast depicted powerfully dynamic relationships, revealing the hidden pain and confusion behind what appears at first glance to be a simply comedic story line.

Directed by Patricia Erdmann '03 as her 700 theater project, the show opened last weekend in the Hepburn Zoo. As the house filled, the Old Man (Freeman White '03) was already on stage in his rocking chair.

His presence was a reminder of the malleable boundaries between on-stage and off-stage, between actors and audience. With a blanket thrown over his legs, he rocked quietly, chewing and occasionally laughing to himself.

He remained in this physically marginal location for the entirety of the play with the exception of several moments at the very end when he stumbled on stage to intervene or assert his influence over the two main characters.

His interjections of laughter were disturbing when they occurred during inappropriate moments. The consistent commentary of the Old Man was effective in bringing awareness to the role of the audience as judges and voyeurs in theater.

The relationship between Eddie, (Andrew Zox '05) and May, (Eliza Hulme '05) was volatile to say the least.

The two alternated between moments of total composure and hysterical displays of emotion without spending much time in between the two extremes.

The constant mood swings of May especially felt somewhat contrived and overly-dramatic as she repeatedly hurled herself onto the bed or floor in fits of hysterical sobbing. Andrew's character appeared more fluid in his display of emotions, but was somewhat of a confusing character.

His explosive gestures, rapid spurts of speech and tendency to fly across the stage added a sense of mental impairment to Eddie who was unpredictable and often bordered on violence.

His movements and tone of voice gave the impression of being drunk even before he had begun draining a bottle of tequila. These choices, while entertaining, sometimes felt awkward and out of place with the mood of the scene.

If the interactions between May and Eddie seemed at times over-done, the relationship between Eddie and Martin (Kevin Buckland '05) was highly enjoyable to watch. Martin, a painfully average guy, provided an interesting contrast to Eddie's high-strung quirkiness.

This juxtaposition of personalities along with the inherent sense of competition over May made for a naturally humorous on-stage relationship between the two men.

When May entered the scene later on, the relationships took on a whole new dimension — one that was fresh and fraught with all the real tensions which such a complicated situation would incite.

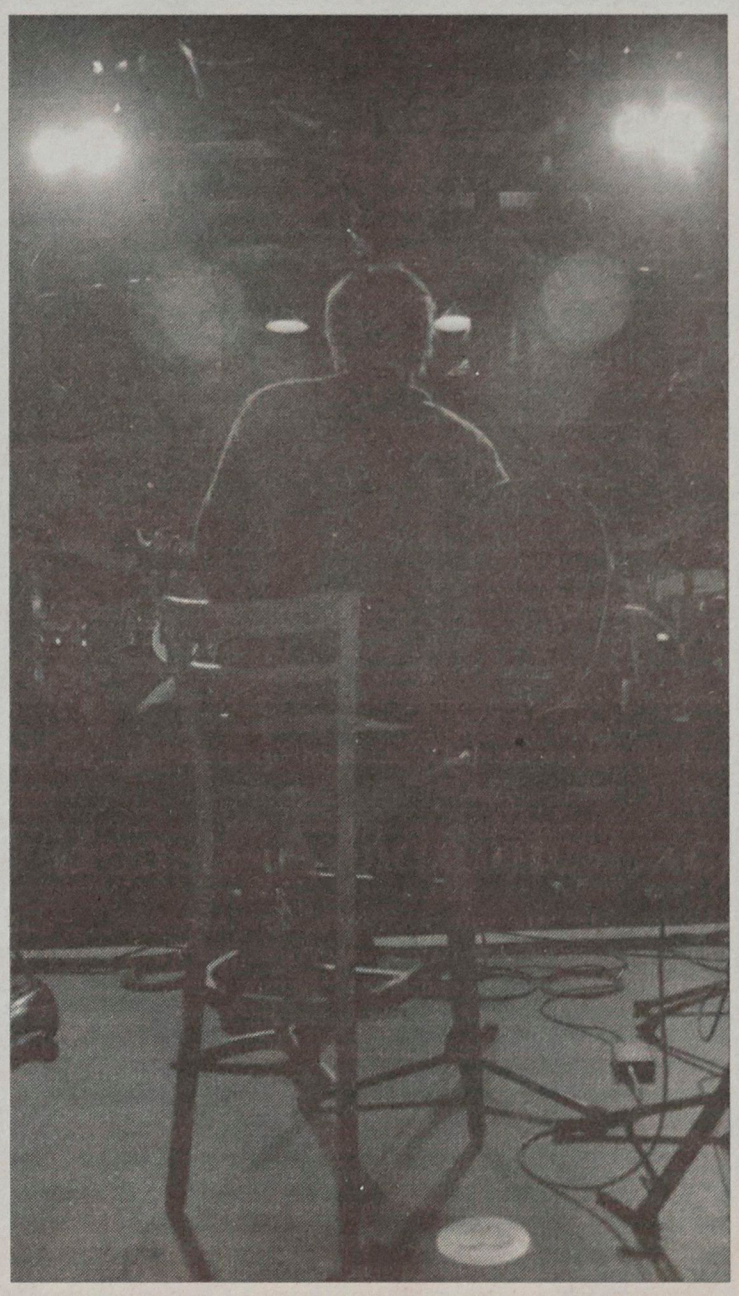
Costumes and set design were wonderfully engaging. The contrast between May's bright red dress and Eddie's old, dirty T-shirt and worn jeans was a great visual expression of their desires and motivations as characters — May trying to move on and Eddie holding on to the past.

The location of the play (a room in a cheap motel just south of the border in Mexico) was expressive of the temporal and transitional nature of the relationships which occurred within that space.

The quality and location of the motel was captured by the stained yellow walls and piecemeal flooring. Light design, including headlights shining through May's window, was also helpful in conveying the atmosphere of the place. They were most effective, however, by being unnoticeable. The frequent flipping of the light switch by May and Eddie was so smooth as to not draw attention to itself at all.

All in all, the play marked an evocative performance, exploring the connections between comedy and tragedy, free will and fate, love and logic.

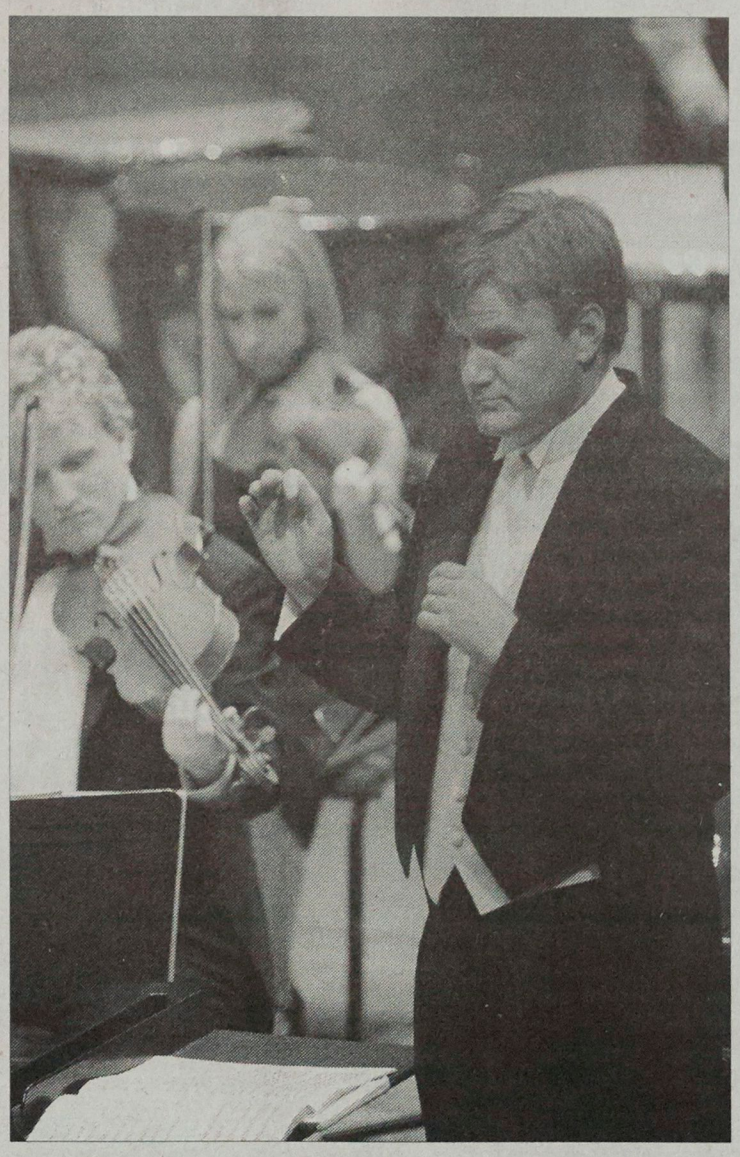
Stage Silhouette



Julia Randall

In anticipation of their debut album, *Chill B lead singer Mike Olcott '04 performs at The Grille last week. The group's album was scheduled to be released today.*

Middlebury College Orchestra



Vlad Lodoaba

Taking the stage in the CFA Concert Hall, *the Middlebury College Orchestra gave its final of the year last Saturday.*

art calendar
(hey, get outta town.)

editor s pick

MAMA LOVES PRESLEY: Does your Mama love Presley? Well the vintage King and his band Viva Las Vegas will recreate the blues and some hunka hunka burnin love for Mother s Day to benefit the American Red Cross. Make your Mama happy on her special day.
When: Sun., May 11 at 8 p.m.
Where: American Legion Post 14, 100 Armory Lane, Vergennes.
Info: 482-4300.
Price: $15.

theater

TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD: Did you skim Harper Lee s classic novel in high school and not really read it? This is so much more worthwhile! A tale of dignity, tolerance, and the difficulties of growing up in this era in Alabama come alive through the Vermont Stage Company.
When: Through May 18th at varied times.
Where: Flynn Center, Burlington.
Info: www.flynncenter.com.
Price: $19.

AMERICAN DREAMS LOST AND FOUND: This oral history tour de force from Pulizter Prize-winning author Studs Terkel s original adaptation. The Acting Company brings the voices of Americans from all walks of life onto the stage.
When: Fri., May 9 at 8 p.m.
Where: Flynn Center, Burlington.
Info: www.flynncenter.com.
Price: $30.

art

OPENING: Art on the Main will be holding a launch for their exhibit featuring sculptor Annie Caswell s clay goddesses and textile artist Alicia LaVigne Lorenzo s art quilts.
When: Sat., May 10 from 3-5 p.m.
Where: Art on the Main Gallery, 25C Main St., Bristol.
Info: 453-4032.

music

MIKE WATT + THE SECONDMEN: Who couldn t love an artist who puts out a solo album called Ball-Hog Or Tugboat? Catch this innovative underground rock musician this Saturday.
When: Sat., May 10 at 8 p.m.
Where: Higher Ground, Burlington
Info: www.highergroundmusic.com
Price: $10 advance/ $12 day of show.

miscellaneous

SPRING WILDFLOWER WALK: Walk with the Green Mountain Club on a 5-7 mile walk guided by Mary Jo Champlin. Bring your lunch to picnic alongside the beautiful flowers and insect repellent to avoid the bugs that the flowers attract.
When: Sat. May 10 from 3-5 p.m.
Info: 388-6678.

WARBLER WARM UP: Hone your identification skills prior to the 2003 birdathon, or just enjoy some leaf-free birdwatching.
When: Sat., May 10 at 6-10 a.m.
Info: 388-4082.

Alasdair Roberts Captures Timeless Scottish Melodies

(continued from page 26)

his use of outdated song material, Roberts holds fast to his music.

He explains this catch-22: "Such tactics are, of course, likely to infuriate certain sections of the 'traditional music' orthodoxy.

"On the other hand, underground rock music (a genre to which this record may or may not belong) places such a premium on the notion of artistic 'originality' and 'innovation' that many fans might dismiss the relevance of playing this supposedly long-dead music."

He provides an answer by stating, "I would liken the subtle re- or de-formation of the songs in individual performances to the way years of footsteps gradually and imperceptibly wear down and remold a staircase."

His reinterpretations of the time-honored ballads are not strained or corruptive, rather they stand for the natural progression of such music — of the stairs getting gradually worn down and reshaped.

In addition, Roberts' proves that his songs are not antiquated, but timeless. They simply "remold" the traditional to fit to modern listeners.

Through soft, minimal guitar picking and sparse backup instrumentation (performed by Tom Crossley, Gareth Eggie, Bill Lowman and Rian Murphy), Roberts recreates the simplicity of the age-old songs, bestowing them with an intimate and pensive quality.

His thin, woeful voice compliments the songs further, enhancing their purity and delicacy. His songs remain unadorned, graceful, and understated, paying an homage to the beauty and sadness of the original ballads.

The lyrics, while not the contemporary, lingo-based lines of today's artists, still boast, in Roberts' words, "themes that are age-old, the situations and characters universal, archetypal.

They gain their power from the fact that we have all experienced the beauty and sickness of love; and so each listener breathes his or her own life into the phantoms which populate the songs."

He continues, "Similarly, the performer is charged with the task of reanimating their dark and ancient heart, and in this regard I am greatly indebted to the many fine Scottish, English and Irish singers whose interpretations of the songs inspired my own."

"Farewell Sorrow," with its fusing of past and present, proves to be a fresh and rewarding listen, one abounding with subtle passion and shy but desperate longing.

It gracefully weaves musical simplicity with emotional complexity, creating an album that is as timeless as the music from which it draws.

'Twist's' Tweaks Prove Successful

(continued from page 26)

"Twist," with its intense sexual innuendo its biting commentary on relationships in turn-of-the-century Vienna, and its added scenes on homosexuality, snatches the attention of any German-speaking audience.

In the Middlebury language immersion spirit, the outing to Mt. Holyoke was a completely German experience. Kiratli said she had some of the most fun "saying our lines back and forth to each other during the ride," and Gamble added that the students spoke German "at the theater watching other plays and getting ready."

Middlebury students took advantage of the meeting to show off their talent and make connections with other germanophiles.

Gamble noted the friendly rapport with University of Vermont and Connecticut College students. Kiratli said of meeting other competitors, "because we were speaking German to each other most of the time, they asked if we were all Germans."

"Twist" underwent several changes after its well-attended performance on campus. Cutting the time of the play was a challenge, since the circularity of the plot is an essential element of its structure. Matthias' solution involved reducing the first and last scenes to pantomimes.

With a few tweaks since its campus success, "Twist" became a winner at the national level. The German department is looking to continue its winning streak during Matthias' absence next year.

The Middlebury Campus

Editorial Positions, Fall 2003

Applications are being accepted for the following positions with The Middlebury Campus.

Applications will be available and in the Campus office in the Hepburn Annex basement beginning Sunday, April 27. Please return completed applications to Drawer 30 by Friday, May 9. Interviews will be scheduled for Monday, May 12. If you have any questions please contact Devin Zatorski (4814) or Claire Bourne (6353)

Associate Editor: Assists editor-in-chief and managing editor in all aspects of newspaper production. Responsible for overseeing Monday night production and copy-editing the Monday night sections. Also must assist with final production beginning at 4 a.m. on Wednesday morning.

Online Editor: Responsible for importing all articles onto the Web site each Wednesday by 3 p.m. Must be comfortable with Web page design and HTML knowledge a plus. Also must be willing to keep in contact with Web site providers.

News Editor: Responsible for conceiving, assigning and editing news stories. Also responsible for layout of section. Must be aware of campus news and have a mind for creative journalism.

Assistant News Editor: Responsible for aiding the News Editors in conceiving, writing and editing news stories. Must be willing to help with the layout of the section as well.

Local News Editor: Responsible for conceiving, assigning and editing local news stories. Also responsible for layout of section. Must be interested in town and state politics and community events with a mind for creative journalism.

Opinions Editor: Responsible for soliciting and editing opinions pieces, letters to the editor and editorial cartoons. Also responsible for layout of section. Must have a keen interest in campus life and sharp eye for controversy.

Features Editor: Responsible for the creation and assignment of novel, interesting and pertinent story ideas. Simultaneously, this position offers an exciting level of freedom, which allows the editor to shape the section, as opposed to the section shaping the editor. Also responsible for layout of section.

Arts Editor: Main responsibility is creating and assigning articles for the section each week based on arts-related events at the College and in the surrounding community. Also responsible for layout of section.

Sports Editor: Assigns and edits all sports stories. Should be familiar with members and coaches of Middlebury athletic teams and in touch with non-varsity activities. Sports editors are responsible for laying out their section.

Assistant Sports Editor: Must be willing to aid sports editors in coming up with story ideas, as well as writing and editing submissions. Also should be available to assist with the layout of the section.

Photo Editor: Responsible for assigning and taking photos requested by each section. Must have good technical skills including knowledge of darkroom procedures. Dependability is a necessity. Paid Position.

Men's Lacrosse

Schedule (12-1)

Mar. 8	New England College	13-3 W
Mar. 15	Colby	9-5 W
Mar. 19	Springfield	11-7 W
Mar. 22	Connecticut College	18-8 W
Mar. 26	at Gettysburg	7-6 L
Mar. 29	at Wesleyan	16-7 W
Apr. 1	at Union	22-5 W
Apr. 9	at Tufts	12-7 W
Apr. 12	Bowdoin	13-11 W
Apr. 13	at Trinity	8-6 W
Apr. 19	Amherst	18-7 W
Apr. 23	at Williams	11-6 W
Apr. 26	Bates	10-6 W
May 3	Amherst - NESCAC Semifinals	14-8 W
May 4	Tufts - NESCAC Finals	15-10 W

Women's Lacrosse

Schedule (11-0)

Mar. 15	Colby	17-7 W
Mar. 22	at Connecticut College	19-3 W
Mar. 23	at Wesleyan	20-5 W
Mar. 26	at Eastern Conn. (in Florida)	15-1 W
Apr. 1	at Union	19-5 W
Apr. 5	Amherst	16-5 W
Apr. 8	at Tufts	ppd
Apr. 12	at Bowdoin	15-7 W
Apr. 16	at Vermont	19-6 W
Apr. 19	Trinity	18-4 W
Apr. 23	at Williams	17-4 W
Apr. 26	Bates	17-6 W
May 3	Colby - NESCAC Semifinals	13-3 W
May 4	Amherst - NESCAC Finals	9-5 W

Men's Tennis

Schedule (12-3)

Mar. 8	Skidmore	7-0 W
Mar. 8	Union	7-0 W
Mar. 12	Vermont	7-0 W
Mar. 22	California-Lutheran (Fla.)	4-3 L
Mar. 23	Chapman (Fla.)	7-0 W
Mar. 26	Vanguard (Fla.)	5-4 L
Mar. 27	Redlands (Fla.)	4-3 W
Mar. 28	Pomona-Pitzer (Fla.)	6-1 W
Apr. 2	at Dartmouth	6-1 L
Apr. 4	at Tufts	4-3 W
Apr. 9	Williams	6-1 W
Apr. 12	at Bowdoin	4-3 W
Apr. 13	at Bates	7-0 W
Apr. 19	at Amherst	7-0 W
Apr. 25-27	Host NESCAC Championship	2nd of 11
May 4	Bates (NCAA Tournament)	4-3 W

Baseball

Schedule (11-11-1)

Mar. 23	M.I.T. (in Florida)	10-7 W
Mar. 23	Union (2-7's) (in Florida)	2-0 W, 14-3W
Mar. 24	U. of Chicago (in Florida)	7-5 L
Mar. 25	Colby (in Florida)	2-2 T
Mar. 25	Salisbury St. (in Florida)	10-2 L
Mar. 26	S. Maine (in Florida)	7-3 W
Mar. 28	Williams (9) (in Florida)	2-0 W
Mar. 29	Williams (7-9) (in Florida)	6-5 L, 9-7 W
Apr. 8	St. Michael's	ppd.
Apr. 9	at Colby-Sawyer	ppd.
Apr. 11	Hamilton (9)	7-6 W
Apr. 12	Hamilton (7-9)	8-7 W, 10-9 W
Apr. 18	Wesleyan (9)	6-5 W
Apr. 19	Wesleyan (7-9)	6-4 W, 12-9 W
Apr. 22	at Skidmore	5-4 L
Apr. 27	at Trinity (2-7's)	6-2 L, 9-2 L
Apr. 30	at St. Michael's	15-13 L
May 2	at Amherst	10-2 L
May 3	at Amherst (7-9)	2-1 L, 8-7 L
May 7	at Colby-Sawyer	3:30
May 9-11	NESCAC Tournament	TBA

Softball

Schedule (17-10)

Mar. 24	S. Maine (in Florida)	4-1 L
Mar. 25	Hamline (in Florida)	10-9 L
Mar. 25	Lawrence (in Florida)	7-0 L
Mar. 26	N. Central College (in Fla.)	3-0 L
Mar. 27	Colby (DH) (in Fla.)	1-0 W, 7-5 W
Mar. 28	Union (in Florida)	8-0 L
Mar. 29	Thomas (in Florida)	10-4 W
Mar. 29	Nova Southeastern (in Fla.)	4-0 L
Apr. 5	Williams (DH)	8-7 W, 11-5 L
Apr. 9	Lyndon (DH)	16-4 W, 9-0 W
Apr. 12	at Wesleyan (DH)	12-2 W, 2-1 W
Apr. 15	Bates (DH)	6-1 W, 6-2 W
Apr. 17	at Castleton (DH)	10-6 W, 4-1 W
Apr. 19	Amherst (DH)	2-1 W, 2-0 W
Apr. 22	at St. Lawrence (DH)	7-1 W, 5-3 L
Apr. 24	Green Mountain	7-4 L, 9-1 W
Apr. 26	at Hamilton (DH)	4-0 W, 5-3 L
Apr. 30	at Norwich (DH)	7-6 L, 6-1 L
May 2	Colby	4-0 L
May 3	Williams	7-1 L

Women's Tennis

Schedule (5-4)

Mar. 23	Kalamazoo (in Florida)	7-2 W
Mar. 24	Salisbury (Fla.)	5-4 W
Mar. 25	St. Thomas (Fla.)	5-4 L
Mar. 26	Luther (Fla.)	7-2 W
Mar. 27	Colby (Fla.)	6-3 W
Apr. 4-6	Middlebury Invitational	No Team Scores
Apr. 12	at Amherst	7-2 L
Apr. 13	at Connecticut College	8-1 W
Apr. 18-20	NESCAC Champ. -Williams	T-6th
Apr. 27	Bowdoin	7-2 L
May 3	Tufts (NCAA Regional at Williams)	6-3 L

Men's Tennis Now Ranked 3rd in Nation

(continued from page 36)

fore.

The team is now in uncharted lands, heading to Minnesota for the NCAA Championship.

The Panthers have a quarterfinal match up against Washington University of St. Louis, and, should both teams keep winning, would meet up with Williams in the Championship match. However, the team does not want to get ahead of themselves.

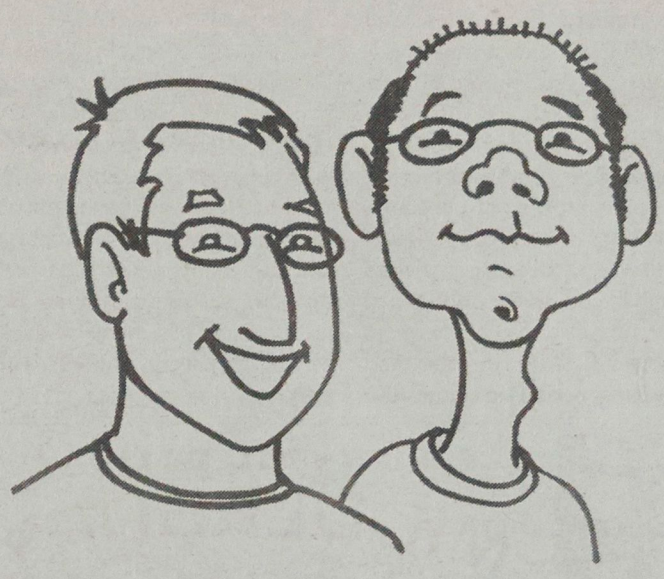
"We're glad that we're there," said Brown. "And now we're just really excited to be playing some good teams out in Minnesota."

"We've made it this far already, it's the farthest we've ever been, so we'll just try and go for it all," said Waldron. "But we'll definitely be taking it one match at a time."

As for the first match, against Washington, the team does not really know what to expect.

"We know Williams beat them, and looking at them through that result, I think we match up well," says Waldron. "But beyond that, we don't know much about them." No matter the result, the Panthers are still enjoying the most successful season in the program's history, and whatever happens in Minnesota will be a bonus on top of an already great season.

Neil & Otto's pizza



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Women's Lacrosse Rolls Over NESCAC Competition

(continued from page 36)

Glessner '03 snuck one through to get on the scoreboard and open the floodgates for the Middlebury attack. The Panthers proceeded by tallying three straight goals in only 33 seconds from the sticks of Elizabeth Renehan '06, Meg Bonney '03, and Glessner once more respectively. After some back and forth play, Glessner found the net again to complete her hat trick and push the lead to 5-0. But goals were hard to come by, and as the offense struggled to find its usual rhythm, the zone defense and solid play of goaltender Sarah Grenert kept the advantage comfortably large. Rookie Ali Penecevich '06 capped the Middlebury first half scoring with one more goal, before Colby got on the board with the half's final two scores.

While the second half began with back and fourth play marked by the continuing defensive pressure of the White Mules, the Panthers maintained their composure and steadily built their lead. Bonney opened the scoring to push the lead to five, followed by two more Panther goals from Schuyler Winstead '06 and Co-captain Kristin Hanley '03. After Colby found the net for its last goal of the contest, Middlebury put to rest any glimpse of hope by registering the last four goals of the game. Goals from Katie Simpson '03, Syd Atkins '05, Winstead again and finally, Dalton Cox '03 completed the diverse Panther attack which was dispersed between nine players. While the Middlebury attack was dominant, the defensive effort was equally impressive, led by co-captain Kate Perine's '03 stringent play in the crease, Caitlin McCormick's '05 consistent checks, and Michelle Bergofsky's '06 disciplined groundball scoops. The total team effort, ultimately resulting in a 13-3 rout allowed the Panthers to move on in the tournament, where they would face the third-ranked Lord Jeffs of Amherst.

In the identical match-up as the previous two NESCAC championships, both teams looked very familiar with their opposing strategies. For one of the first times all season, Middlebury's opposition found the net first to open the scoring less than 10 minutes into the contest. Following this surprising effort, the Lord Jeffs found the net soon thereafter with a goal from Amherst star Liz Martin, whose goal was her 52nd of the year. Amherst then extended its lead to 3, when it found the net once more to open Middlebury's largest deficit of the season. Said Perine, "The defense was forced to break out and pressure the Amherst attack more than we are used to. This resulted in some early goals." After 25 frustrating minutes which featured the Panthers largest scoring drought of the year, Hanley found the net to close the gap to two. But Amherst did not back down from the challenge, returning the favor and restoring its three-goal cushion. However, less than one minute later, Simpson tallied a key goal before intermission, to cut the deficit to two going into the locker room.

Between halves, the team made a major change by moving into a more player-to-player type defense, as opposed to the usually conservative zone defense. Said Perine, "This helped force turnovers and allowed our offense to get into their rhythm." Five minutes into the second half, it appeared as if the defending National Champs would impose their superiority and open a scoring run to secure the NESCAC crown. However, after shrinking the lead to one, Amherst answered to make it a two goal game with just over 17 minutes to play. If the Lord Jeffs could have ended it here, they surely would have protected their lead for fear of the Nationally-regarded, notorious Panther scoring run which has terrorized teams for years. This is exactly what took place, as the Panthers rattled off six straight goals to close out the game and secure not only another NESCAC championship, but a continuation of their incredible winning streak which now sits just two games short of 50. Bonney ignited the barrage and Perencevich took a nifty feed from Hanley to give the Panthers their first lead at 6-5. Middlebury never looked back, as they found the net three more times, once from Renehan (assisted by Hanley for her 40th assist) and the final two from Glessner who scored her 50th goal of the season to lead the team.

While the win was a true testament to the persistence and response to adversity from Middlebury, the unexpected competition in the championship provided a significant scare. Said Perine, "It was a bit of a shocker. Amherst's game plan was aimed at keeping the score low by limiting our team's possession time." Pushed to the brink of defeat, the motivation to win is necessary going into the NCAA tournament. The Panthers will play the winner of the Bridgewater/Wheaton game in an attempt to repeat as the nation's best Division III women's lacrosse team.

Kathrin Schwesinger

Char Glessner '03, reaching for a loose ball, is one reason the Panthers are going to NCAAs for the 10th straight time.

Make it Three in a Row for Men's Lacrosse

(continued from page 36)

Jeffs' defense four minutes into the second, with both attackmen scoring goals off assists from each other. The Panther defense dug in and helped Middlebury's attack possess the ball for the next four minutes until Greg Bastis '04 found the back of the net from 10 yards after beating his defender. Bastis would beat the same defender and one other eight minutes into the third, with the score tied at 6-6, to give the Panthers the lead for good for his third goal on the afternoon. Saraceni scored twenty seconds later with Middlebury a man-up off a quick feed from Jon Sisto '06. Frissora picked up where Bastis left off, scoring his second goal of the afternoon after breaking down two defenders as well. Charley Howe '04 and Saraceni would each add two more before the day was over on unassisted goals to end Amherst's season.

Middlebury learned its lesson from the Amherst game, and put the pressure on the Jumbos from the start. With the game scoreless six minutes in, Bastis put away another powerful shot to put the Panthers up 1-0. A minute later Frissora fed Bastis for his second goal of the day and left Tufts' defense reeling. Moments later Jamie Duke '05 bounced one home, and soon after Gault go into the mix, capitalizing off an outstanding run from the defensive end by West.

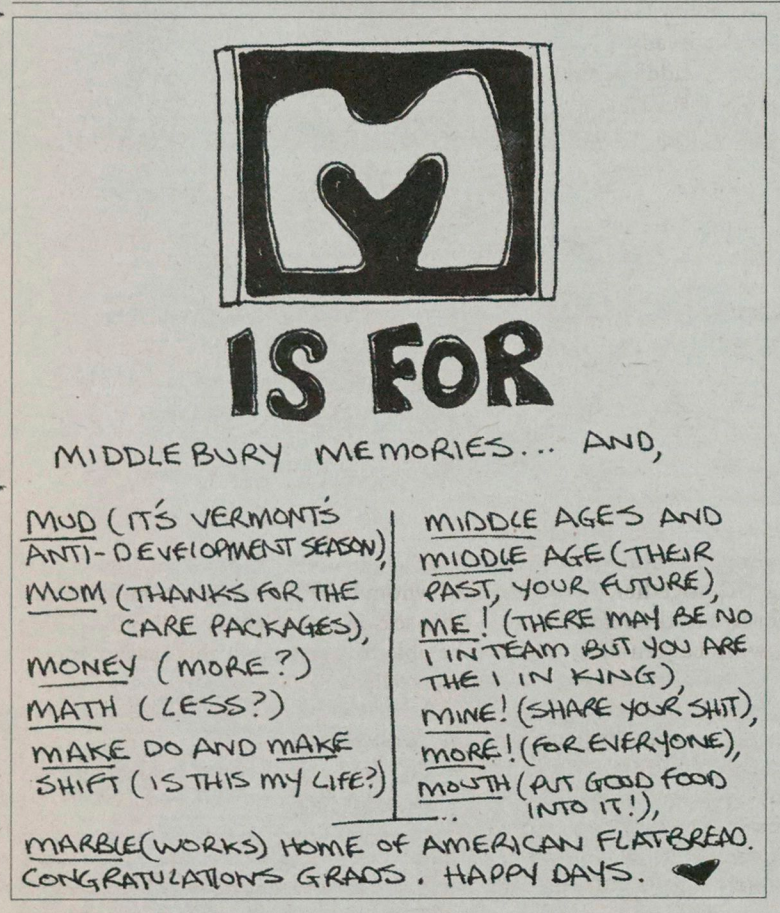
The leaders of the team carried Middlebury the rest of the way. Captain Chris Davis '03 notched four timely goals on the day, playing one of his best games all year. Howe had four goals as well, and set up Davis and Saraceni for two assists. Howe put in three of his four goals in the second half, and his play helped ignite Panther runs all weekend.

Saraceni, added two of his own after putting home four goals against Amherst. Davis, Howe, and Saraceni helped clinch the Championship in the fourth quarter along with a quick split-dodge by Aaron Herter '06, each scoring a goal to keep the Jumbos at bay.

In the second half of both games Middlebury's defense, offensive talent, and overall athleticism proved too much for their opponents. Krieger was only beaten twice in the second half by Amherst, and turned long periods of time into scoreless droughts for the Jumbos. Captain Brian McGregor '03 won 19 of 26 face offs in the first game, and 18 of 28 in the second, that gave Middlebury's opponents fewer opportunities to score.

His play on the weekend earned him NESCAC player of the week, becoming the first Panther to win the award all season. The seniors on this squad, Captains Frissora, Davis, and McGregor along with Holmes, Gault and defender Cody Higginbottom '03 have never lost a game in postseason play.

"These guys are great contributors [to the team] with on field play and leadership, some vocal, some by example, some by their commitment and persistence in the face of not playing as much," Quinn said.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MIDDLEBURY MEMORIES... AND,
MUD (IT'S VERMONT'S ANTI-DEVELOPMENT SEASON),
MOM (THANKS FOR THE CARE PACKAGES),
MONEY (MORE?)
MATH (LESS?)
MAKE DO AND MAKE SHIFT (IS THIS MY LIFE?)
MIDDLE AGES AND MIDDLE AGE (THEIR PAST, YOUR FUTURE),
ME! (THERE MAY BE NO I IN TEAM BUT YOU ARE THE I IN KING),
MINE! (SHARE YOUR SHIT),
MORE! (FOR EVERYONE),
MOUTH (PUT GOOD FOOD INTO IT!),
MARBLE (WORKS) HOME OF AMERICAN FLATBREAD.
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Track Teams Excel at D-III Meet

Women Run to 6th-Place Finish; Men Come in 8th

By Erich Kahner
Staff Writer

Some of the strongest and swiftest in New England competed against each other at the NCAA Division III New England Outdoor Track and Field Championships on May 2-3. The men's team traveled to Bates College and finished eighth out of 23 teams with 38 points, while the women went to Williams College, where they finished sixth out of 27 teams with by tallying 36 points.

Track and Field

Friday, May 2nd - Saturday, May 3rd

Men's Team	8th
Women's Team	6th

"It's a very tough competition," said Head Coach Martin Beatty about the track meet. "To finish with both teams in the top 10, I was really excited for that."

Several women placed in the top eight and earned all-New England status. Jess Manzer '05 continued to shave time off of her 1,500-meter best. She ran a 4:37.07, nearly two seconds fastest than her previous best, and placed third.

Michela Adrian '03 continues to improve after coming back from an injury only three weeks ago. Adrian took 15 seconds off her 5,000-meter time from last week's meet with her third place, 17:45.49 effort at New Englands. Maryanne Porter '04 placed third in the 400-meter hurdles with a time of 1:04.26.

Kirsten Nagel '06 and Sarah Berkowitz '05 also won all-New England honors. Nagel placed fourth in the 100-meter dash in a time of 13.58 seconds, and Berkowitz vaulted 10'6" in the pole vault—good enough for fifth place.

> It makes my job a joy to work with people like this. They've acted really mature... and taken what could've been one of the most frustrating years and made it into one of the most fun years ever.
>
> —Head Coach Martin Beatty

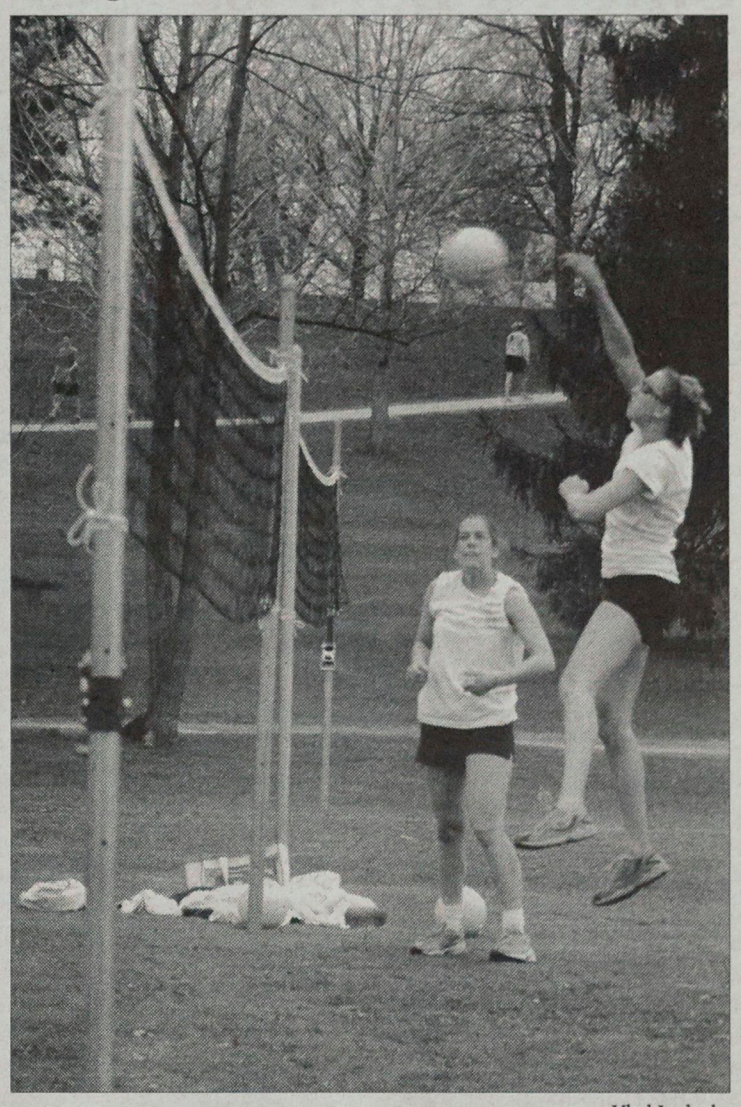
The men placed a few high finishers last weekend as well. Kristoph Becker '06 won his all-New England merit by totaling 6,103 points in the decathlon and throwing the javelin 187'11". He placed second in both of these events.

Kevin Bright '06 placed second in the 400-meter hurdles with a time of 53.85 seconds. Steve Atkinson '06 complemented Becker in the javelin with a fourth-place throw of 173'08" and Liam Aiello ran to 5th in the 100-meter dash with a time of 11.11 seconds.

Although there are a few meets remaining for some athletes, Beatty already sees this season as successful. "It makes my job a joy to work with people like this," Beatty remarked on the team. "They've acted really mature and haven't complained about the weather. They've taken what could've been one of the most frustrating years and made it into one of the most fun years ever."

The season continues next weekend with the Open New England Championships and concludes with the NCAA Division III Outdoor Track and Field Championships on May 22-25 at St. Lawrence University.

Getting Some Air



Vlad Lodoaba

Taking advantage of the spring sun, *Evan Kanaly '03 gets off the ground to spike the ball on the grass courts in front of McCullough.*

Tufts Ends Women's Tennis Season in NCAA Regionals

By Daniel Shea
Staff Writer

With the suddenly sufferable spring weather in Middlebury comes a time for students to look back upon the accomplishments of the year, and as the members of the women's tennis team look back on their season, they can now see last weekend's bid against Tufts University at the NCAA Regional Tournament planted squarely in their hindsight.

Women's Tennis

Saturday, May 3rd

Middlebury	3
Tufts	6

Heading down to host school Williams on a cool Friday night, the Panther dozen was traveling to a familiar destination. Middlebury had come in sixth place at the Williams-hosted New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) Championships two weeks back.

This was the first time in more than four years that a Middlebury women's tennis team has qualified for the NCAA tournament.

The year had been, in normative terms, a successful one. As both co-captains, juniors Jena Siegel and Sandy Spring, noted, over the course of the just-ended year the individual Panthers were for the first time in recent memory able to subdue many of the league's top players. Despite feeling surprise and poise as many players "realized their potential," as Spring puts it, the upstart Panther team was not perfectly content with its 5-4 record.

Thus, Spring was relieved that her team's NCAAs appearance showed that Middlebury is "a presence" in the wake of a "perhaps unlucky" season-ending 7-2 loss to Bowdoin.

And perhaps there is something irreconcilable in the belief that while one is doing quite well, surprisingly so in fact, one still ought to be doing better. Siegel's "nervous underdogs" thought, as Spring says, "that [they] could win." All this energy was put to good use on the Saturday morning courts as Middlebury took two of the three doubles matches against the nation's number five-ranked team.

The first-team duo of Spring and Ariella Neville '03 overthrew reigning NESCAC champions Jennifer Lejb and Katie Nordstrom. In Spring's words, she and Neville "saw [their] potential into being," and drew their 4-1 lead into an 8-3 victory over a team that had started the match "looking past" Middlebury.

In the number two spot, Siegel, playing with Nina Popel '04, kicked the Barclay Gang-Neda Pisheva team, already down after losing to the Middlebury girls at the NESCAC Championship.

Despite their doubles-play coup, the Middlebury team was not able to establish the friendly Central Vermont dictatorship they wanted over Tufts: the ruling Medford junta fought back in the singles contests with the Jumbos "pulling [it] together," as Siegel notes, for five of the six decisions.

> We have to take this one step at a time. There was a huge difference in our play this year, and next year we'll hopefully win a few more.
>
> —Co-captain Jena Siegel '04

Still, with Lauren Ready's '05 victory, the Middlebury squad was able to win three of the nine possible points – three more than they managed against Tufts in the fall. This progress notwithstanding, Siegel was "disappointed . . . [Middlebury] could've definitely taken a few of the singles matches."

Again, though, this ambition was tempered by the rush of having made a respectable showing at the NCAA Tournament. Returning on a warmer night than that on which they'd left, the team felt, in Spring's assessment, "as though [they'd] won."

Reservations about the number of wins logged this year aside, both Siegel and Spring are looking to achieve unqualified success next year. Attributing the strides Middlebury made this year both to the team as a whole and to the players themselves.

Siegel said, "We have to take this one step at a time. There was a huge difference in our play this year [from last year], and next year we'll hopefully win a few more."

Next season should prove to be an exciting one, as the Panthers are only graduating Neville. With the experience of NESCAC and NCAA tournaments under their belts, the Panthers should be able to cause quite a stir in both leagues.

The team will be comprised of four seniors and three juniors, all of whom have played in top spots this season. Middlebury will only be able to build upon this season of excellence.

Using the fall to hone their individual skills, the spring season should see a solid Panther squad that will be difficult to overcome. A little experience can make a huge difference for a team that will be full of veterans.

Don't Miss...

Men's & Women's Lacrosse NCAAs

Saturday, May 10

What to Watch in Middlebury Sports

Women vs. TBA - 11:30

On Wednesday, Wheaton College and Bridgewater State College will fight for the chance to face the Panthers on Saturday, and one pressing question weighs heavily on the mind of everyone involved: does the outcome even matter?

The Panthers are now 48 games into their amazing winning streak, and after defeating Amherst for the second time this season in the NESCAC Championship, the team looks invincible. Middlebury earned its 10th straight NCAA tournament berth, and are hoping to win its third National Championship in a row.

The game will take place at 11:30 on Saturday at Kohn Field, where the Panthers look to extend their perfect season record to 14-0 with a victory against the lowest seed in the tournament.

Men vs. Springfield - 1:00

Springfield is a familiar foe for the men's lacrosse team, and Saturday's game could be a thriller as the recently-crowned NESCAC Champions face up against the Pilgrim League Champions at 1:00 in Alumni Stadium.

The Pride (11-4) gave Middlebury a scare in an 11-7 Panther victory on March 19 and was the only team to beat the Panthers in the '01 NCAA Championship season. However, Middlebury still leads the all-time series 19-9.

The men will be looking for a fourth straight NCAA title, and despite not having the top ranking, it will be hard to see them as anything but favorites. With the team's only loss coming in Gettysburg early in the season, the Panthers are looking strong for a championship run.

Softball Eliminated from First-Ever NESCAC Tourney

By Kate Nerenberg
Sports Editor

Deflated by a three-game losing streak to finish off the regular season, the Middlebury softball team could not muster enough strength to come up victorious in its first-ever New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) tournament. After being swept by Norwich early in the week, the Panthers traveled to Colby to test their bats in postseason play. Following a first-round loss to the host White Mules, Williams sent Middlebury home the next day.

> I'm really excited about next year. We have a lot of rookies who show a lot of maturity and come up big in the clutch. All of our returners are ready to take the team forward.
> —Christina Freyer '04

Despite the season coming to an end, the Panthers could not have asked for a better year. The team set the school record for wins in a season with 17 and with a mid-season 11-game sequence of victories, set the school mark for longest winning streak. Christina Freyer '04 made a name for herself, rewriting the record books. With 42 hits, she set the single-season record in that category, as well as topping the runs-scored list with 26. Freyer's .433 batting average places her second on the single-season list, with a year left in her career.

Against Norwich, the Panthers perhaps had their focus set on the upcoming tournament rather than the immediate game at hand. In the first contest of the doubleheader, Middlebury appeared to have the game under control, posting six runs within the first three innings, while holding Norwich scoreless. However, Norwich came storming back and answered with five runs, while shutting the Panthers off for the next four innings. In the bottom of the seventh, Norwich came up with the two runs it needed for the 7-6 victory. Despite the loss, the Panthers were encouraged by the widespread hitting, as eight different players connected at the plate.

The second game was less of a fight, as Norwich used strong defense to stifle any chance of a Middlebury attack. Only allowing six hits, Norwich scored early to establish dominance. Despite the two-hit effort of Kathryn Hurd '06, the Panthers could not get their game off the ground, giving up 11 hits and six runs. The hitting troubles against Norwich would only foreshadow the Panthers' problems at the NESCAC tournament.

"The Norwich losses were disappointing, but we were really looking forward to NESCACs," Freyer noted. "We were unbelievably proud of ourselves for making it there and we were just hoping for the best."

The best did not happen, however. Middlebury, ranked second in the West division, took on Colby, the East division's number one seed, a team the Panthers had defeated twice earlier this season. However, the White Mules switched up their pitcher, which only made the Panthers more nervous.

"We didn't string our hitting together. We had a couple of nerves and they pitched with a pitcher we hadn't seen much of," explained Freyer.

In fact, Middlebury posted one of their worst hitting games of the season, only connecting four times, with half of the hits coming off Freyer's bat. Although the Panthers held Colby defensively for the first three innings, the White Mules finally broke open the scoreboard in the bottom of the fourth with one run. In the next inning, they scored three more and just held on for the 4-0 victory.

The next day, the Panthers faced Williams, who had lost to eventual NESCAC champion Tufts in the first round. Earlier this season, the teams split games when they played a doubleheader at Middlebury.

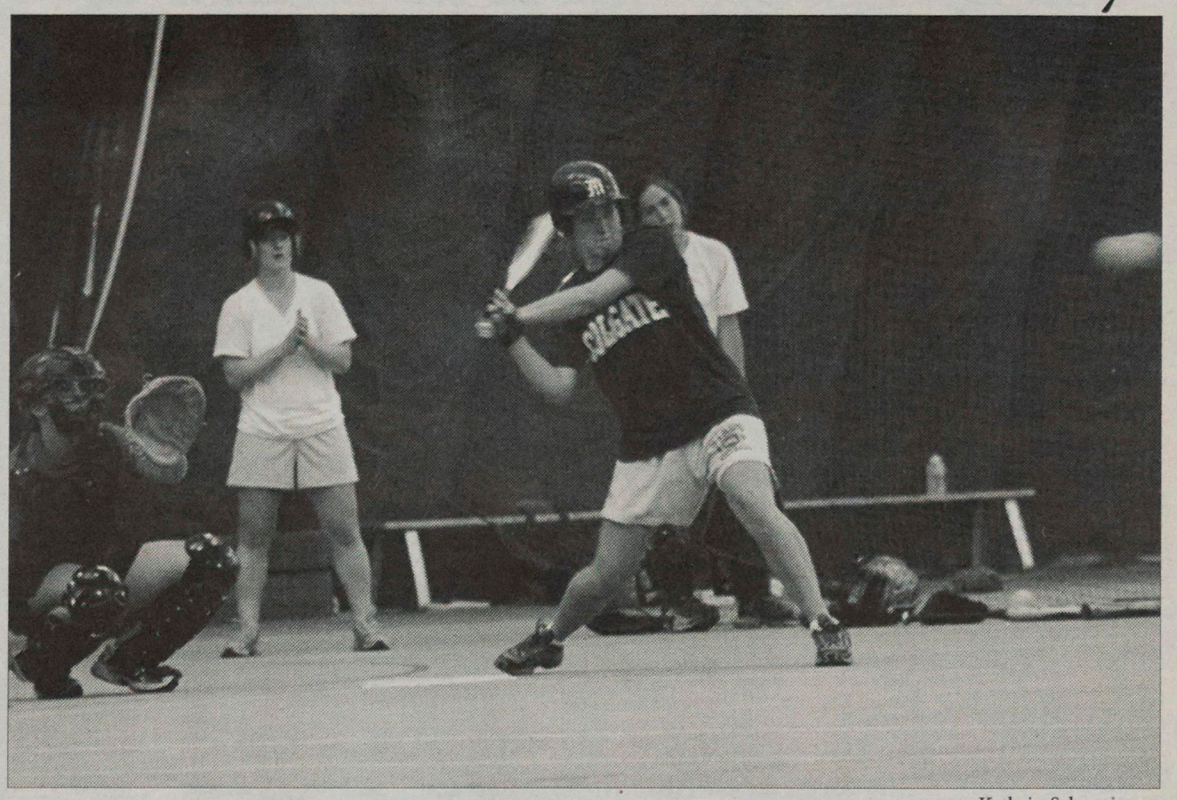
This game belonged solely to the Ephs, however, as they took an immediate lead that proved to be enough for a victory. Within the first two innings, Williams had a 7-1 lead that it never relinquished. Hurd's RBI ground out in the first sent Lauren Guza '05 home for the Panthers' only run. Freyer again registered two hits on the afternoon.

"Williams hit better than us," said Freyer. "When Megan McCarthy '05 came in [to pitch] we held them. We went there to play, we just weren't the team that beat Amherst [on April 19]."

Tournament losses aside, this season has been a huge step for the softball team. In only its fourth year of existence, the squad is excited about continuing the tradition of excellence it established this season.

"I'm really excited about next year. We have rookies who show a lot of maturity and can come up big in the clutch. All of our returners are ready to take the team forward," commented Freyer.

The Panthers will look to make waves in the NESCAC tournament next season.



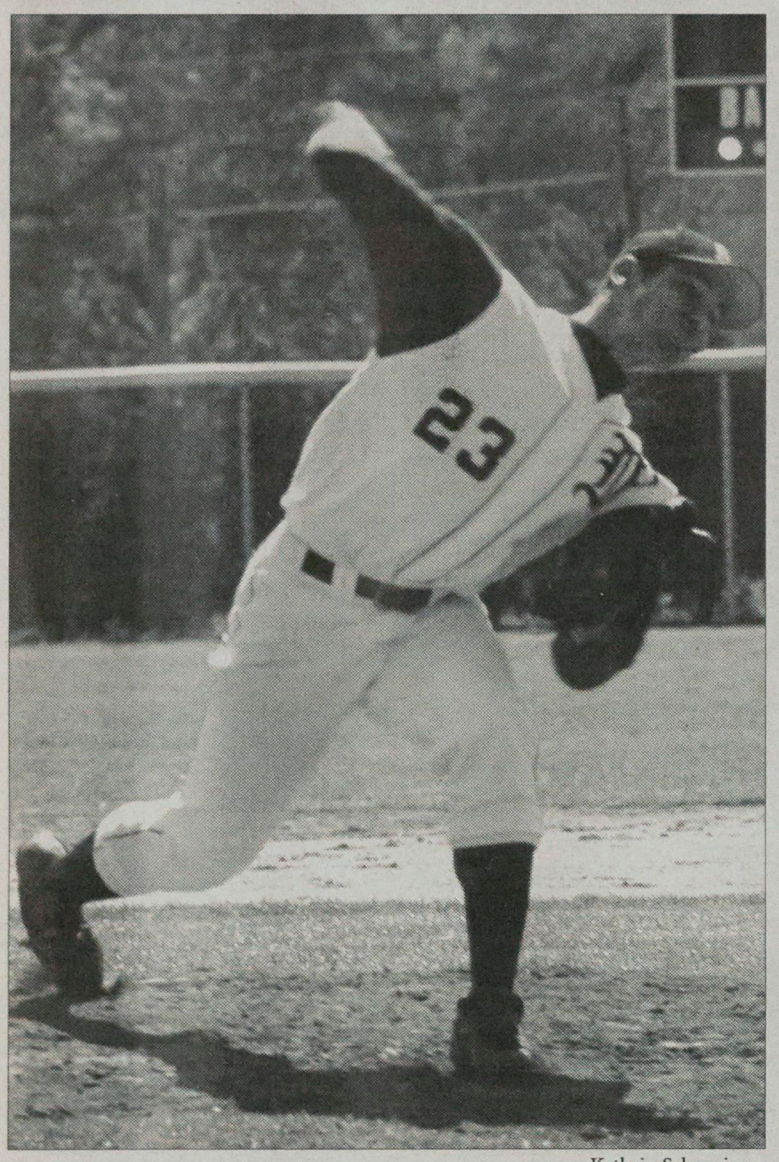
Kathrin Schwesinger

The softball team practices inside in preparation for its first appearance in the NESCAC tournament.

Amherst Kills Baseball's Postseason Hopes

By Jacob Heller
Staff Writer

Yogi Berra once said "I ain't in no slump, I just ain't hittin." For the past two weeks the Middlebury baseball team has been playing well but not making enough plays to win. Despite playing solid baseball this past weekend, the Middlebury baseball team fell one game short of the playoffs. To clinch a playoff spot the Panthers needed to take one game from New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) Eastern division leader Amherst. The effort was there but Middlebury lost all three games, 10-2, 2-1, 8-7.



Kathrin Schwesinger

Russ Budnick '05 lunges into a pitch in a recent home game. The baseball team recently ended its season after three consecutive losses to Amherst.

Baseball

Saturday, May 3rd

Middlebury	2
Amherst	10

Saturday, May 3rd

Middlebury	1
Amherst	2

Saturday, May 3rd (11 innings)

Middlebury	7
Amherst	8

Not making the playoffs is certainly a disappointment for this Panther team, which started the season so successfully, but the season is a success overall. Middlebury finished the year with an 11-11-1 record and a 7-5 record against their NESCAC divisional opponents. Head Coach Bob Smith explained why this season was truly a successful one: "The level of expectations this team set was as high as any team I have ever coached. Some years I would consider a .500 season a goal to shoot for, not with this team. This team is talented enough to be in the playoffs. We lost some real tough one- and two-run games that kept us out of the playoffs but we proved we could play with anyone."

In the final game against Amherst, Middlebury received a strong pitching performance from Tyler Bak '06. Bak gave up four runs in seven innings and allowed Middlebury an opportunity to win in extra innings. The pitching staff held Amherst in check for 10 innings before surrendering the winning run in the 11th. Ultimately, it was the Panthers' 13 runners left on base that caused the team to fall short. Middlebury allowed Amherst to stay in the game for too long and eventually the Panthers faltered. A one-run lead with two outs in the ninth should have sealed the Middlebury playoff dream, but some timely hitting by Amherst ensured another missed opportunity for Middlebury. Co-captain John Prescott '04 was not surprised by what the team was able to accomplish this season: "It is impossible to measure this team by wins and losses. We played a tough schedule and never quit all season. Team chemistry carried us all season and through hard work we had a shot to make the playoffs. Being a senior it is hard knowing how close we came to the playoffs, but despite falling short of our ultimate goal this season was a huge step forward for Middlebury baseball."

Smith echoed Prescott's statement about the importance of this season for the Middlebury baseball program. The team is certainly on the rise and has only shown improvement in each of the past few seasons. With a lot of promising young talent already on the team and more coming in each year the goal of the playoffs is closer than ever to becoming a reality for Middlebury baseball. Captain Denny Smith '03 assessed the season and the future of the program: "The entire pitching staff is coming back next season and that is remarkable. Russ Budnick '03 was a workhorse for us all season and next year the rest of our young staff will follow him to the next level. This team came as close as any Middlebury team to the playoffs and next season the team is not rebuilding, but reloading for another playoff run," he said.

The team is only losing five seniors and Smith's prediction could very well become a reality.

WITH THE ATHLETES . . .

ABE STREEP '04

By Andrew Zimmermann
Senior Staff Writer

Name: Abraham Streep
Year: 2004
DOB: 10/23/81
Hometown: South Nyack, N.Y.
Major: American Lit.
Abe Cheers For: The Yankees
Sports: Baseball
Position: Right field
Interests: Baseball, writing, fly fishing, playing the fiddle

Abe Says: It's harder in college to be completely absorbed in baseball. In high school that is what I identified myself with and I had complete faith in the sport. I think this year I got that back. We all had a real fire this season.

Abe Streep is known in many of the little bubbles that make up the big "Middlebury Bubble". In the "sports bubble" he is the right fielder for Middlebury's baseball team. Among the quirky hobbyists throughout the school, he is known as a fly fisherman. And within the large "music bubble" he is the violinist and mandolin player for the Rt. 7 Ramblers.

Like so many students at Middlebury he falls into the "so much to do, so little time" category. An admissions officer's dream, Streep actually started his college career elsewhere and later transferred to Middlebury. "I actually went to Yale," said Streep, "and transferred here after a semester." His arrival was just in time to help the baseball team in the 2001 season. Admittedly, his first two years at Middlebury, the team did not meet the success it would have hoped for - each year finishing below .500. But Streep was content playing in a NESCAC setting. "Baseball was not fun for me at [Yale]," said Streep who cites that as one of the reasons he decided to leave New Haven. "But I wasn't ready to give [baseball] up. The coaches at Middlebury were nice and the team had its priorities in order."

Its no mystery then, that with its priorities in the right place, the baseball team has turned it around. The 2003 season has been it's best in terms of winning since 2000 when it went 15-14-1 overall. "We've gotten a lot better," Streep said of the team's improvement over his three-year career. "It's been the best year so far. The chemistry in training was great. The team was really getting along and we were going towards the same goal. There didn't seem to be any selfishness either."

Middlebury jumped out of the gate and took early control of the NESCAC standings with sweeps of Hamilton and Wesleyan. With Streep providing serviceable fielding in right and veteran hitting from Jason Hanna '03 and John Prescott '03 the team looked poised to make a post-season appearance for the first time in years. After a three game sweep in Wesleyan, Middlebury stood at 11-4-1. "The wins at Wesleyan were the highlight of my baseball experience so far," Streep said. Middlebury won with good pitching and just four errors over the 25 innings of play. "Everyone played amazingly and I definitely played as well as I ever have," he added.

It was after that weekend that Middlebury's bubble burst. The team was swept by Trinity and could not recover, losing its remaining games including an 11 inning heartbreaker to Amherst Sunday that dashed any postseason hopes. "In the end we were unbelievably unlucky," said Streep of Sunday's loss. "Jason Hanna almost hit a home run to put us ahead but the [Amherst player] caught it at the fence." Ultimately it was two "dinky" ninth inning hits by Amherst of the "seeing-eye single" variety that foiled Middlebury.

"It has been a great season though" added Streep. "It's harder in college to be completely absorbed in baseball. In high school that is what I identified myself with and I had complete faith in the sport. I think this year I got that back. We all had a real fire this season." Streep and the rest of the team all made solid contributions throughout the 2003 campaign. At .340, Streep was second on the team in batting average, collecting 17 hits in 50 official at bats. He and batting average leader, Dave Riester will lead the Panthers next year as they look to take the next step towards success.

> You play sports because it makes you feel for a few moments that everything you do is really meaningful and its life or death. It's exciting and it gets your blood pumping.
>
> —Abe Streep '04

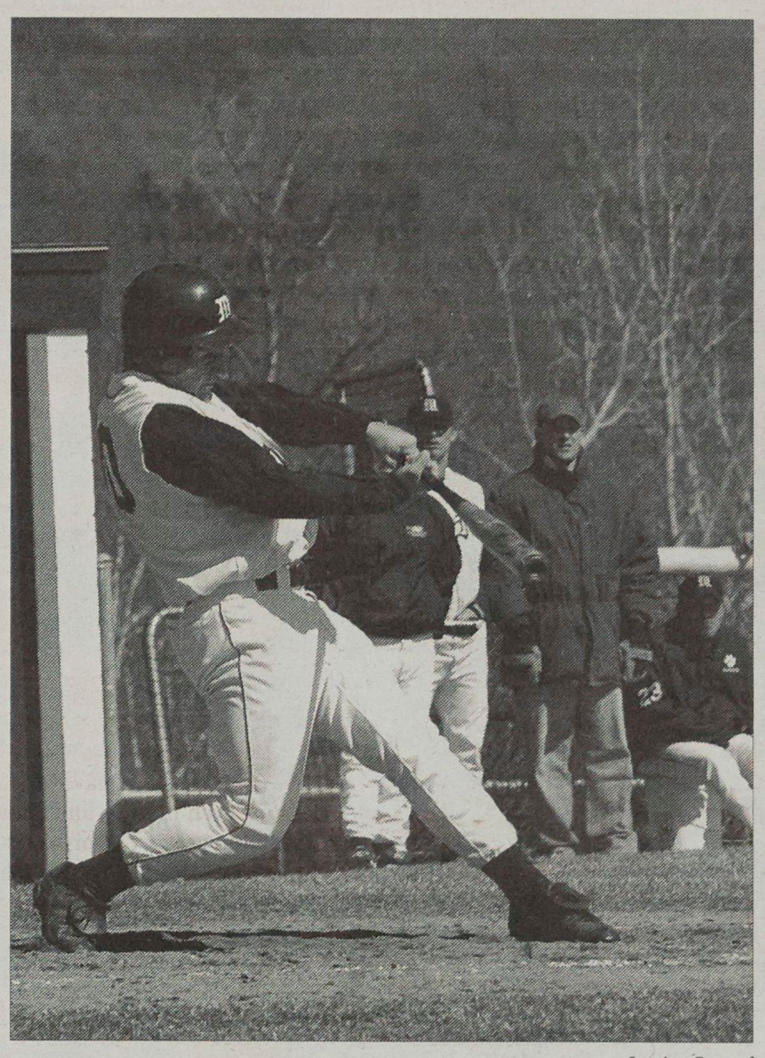
Streep admitted his senior year on the baseball team will be "big" as it will most likely mark the last of his competitive baseball days. Baseball, as with most sports, consumes its youthful admirers and leaves them in the prime of their lives with no prospects of continuing. Thanks to Streep's involvement within the other "Middlebury bubbles", he will have plenty to keep him busy after baseball is finished and he leaves Middlebury. "I think I am probably going to fish for a real long time," said Streep, who is an avid fly fisherman. "I'm probably going to be an old man sitting by the creek and maybe playing my fiddle on the side."

His music and his fishing demand his attention when he is not in season for baseball. Streep is the fiddle and mandolin player in the Rt. 7 Ramblers, a band playing among other things, bluegrass and folk favorites. For the second consecutive summer, he and the band will be touring the Northeast with Circus Smircus. Playing background music for a traveling circus has its perks. "We tour with the circus and live in an old school bus," Streep said. "And we're buying our bus, a 36-foot school bus, at the end of the summer for $1."

The band has also made a habit of performing at parties where there is a captive, jovial audience. For Streep, energizing the crowd at a party through his music provides much the same adrenaline rush he gets from performing on the diamond. "You play sports," said Streep, "because it makes you feel for a few moments that everything that you do is really meaningful and its life or death. It's exciting and it gets your blood pumping and it's the same thing with performing sometimes." For him, working to put something together on the diamond has paralleled working to put together good sounding music with his band.

For those solitary times when outside pressure and teamwork are too intense, Streep has his fly fishing. "I've found something I really like in fly fishing," said Streep. Summer work in Montana has brought him to some of the premier fishing locales in the U.S. recalling wilderness, sunshine and the classic fly fishing movie, "A River Runs Through It". It is the only type of fishing Streep wants to do. "For me it seems more active than spin fishing," he said. "It's not just throwing out a line and hoping something hits it. There's more skill involved, in placing the fly, and drifting it right and knowing what to put on."

In fly fishing, Streep has found a lifelong pursuit that he will take outside the Middlebury bubble and into his adult life. After the circus tour this summer, the American Lit major will venture to Breadloaf for the Writer's Conference, pursuing another passion of his - creative writing. Shy to admit another intriguing fact about his life, Abe is indeed related to a successful Hollywood type who bears the same last name. That aside, this Streep is finding his own way, creating a wealth of memorable experiences at Middlebury and setting himself up for many more after he leaves the "bubble".



Louisa Conrad
Abe Streep '04 was a huge force in the Middlebury baseball team's success this season. According to Streep, the team "had a real fire this season."

ZIGS' PICKS

By Zak Allen
Staff Writer

There is much to deal with here in the waning days of my tenure at *The Middlebury Campus*. I flat out missed my deadline last week, much to the chagrin of my editors, who were no doubt horribly upset at not having their 450 words of back-page gibberish.

At any rate, this is a fantastic time of year for the sports enthusiast, with funky action everywhere you look, left and right: hockey playoffs, basketball playoffs, castrated horses running wild in Kentucky, the NFL Draft, Premier League soccer, baseball...and wouldn't you know it, the sporting airwaves are being fouled with lame garbage about two collegiate coaches being fired for unbecoming conduct.

I have made no secret of my outright disdain for the American sporting press in the past; it is a generally wretched group of hopeless dingbats with the overall appeal of a thuggish gang of "pre-owned" car salesmen with lots of time on their hands. In any decent socio-economic system they would be confined to peeling potatoes in underground lockers, where they wouldn't be able to spew their bile all over the newspapers and airwaves of America.

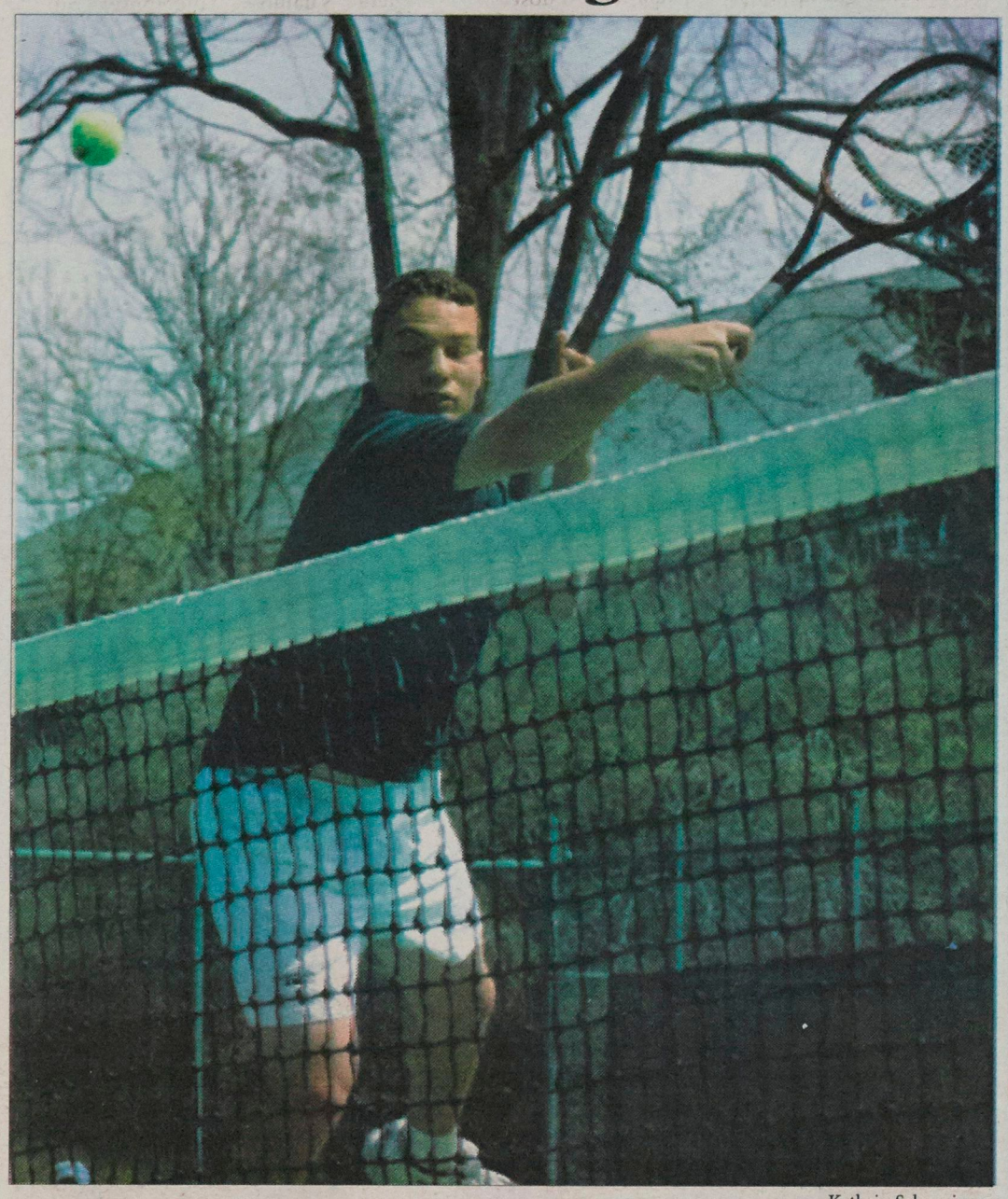
So, we have Larry Eustachy, previously basketball coach at Iowa State, who is apparently a perverted sot whose evenings consisted of quietly reviewing game film over a quiet fifth of Jack Daniel's before going to check up on the girls at the Delta Tau sorority. Larry seemed content with this until his picture was plastered all over America, drunk as an owl, slobbering on some frosh from Ames or Des Moines, Iowa, in the throes of what can only be described as a certifiable fit of madness.

Then there is Mike Price, formerly Alabama football coach. Mike went out and spent his hard-earned dollars at a strip club a couple weeks ago, before going back to a hotel with a hooker. Well... shucks. I guess I always just assumed this to be standard fare for a coach of a major SEC football program, one of the perks you know? But apparently not, and the real kick of it is he probably would've gotten away with it if his whore hadn't had the appetite of an elephant the next morning, ordering over $1,000 worth of brunch for herself and Mikey...

If an NCAA coach wants to get liquored up and caress a member of his school's female body, he should get fired. If a coach wants to go out and get wild with some hookers, he should find ones with more discretion than to order $1,000 worth of flapjacks the next morning.

Especially when he is in The Bible belt.

Men's Tennis Edges Out Bates for Trip to Minnesota



Kathrin Schwesinger

Justin Ingoglia '05 lunges for a net winner in the NCAA regional victory over Bates this Sunday.

By David Lindholm
Sports Editor

For the Middlebury men's tennis team, their NCAA tournament experience began with a surprise and almost ended in shock. When the Bates College Bobcats took out the Massachusetts Institute of Technology on Saturday in Middlebury, it took the Panthers, who had been preparing all week to face M.I.T., slightly by surprise.

Then Bates came out firing again the next day and almost upset the Panthers, ranked third nationally. However, Middlebury fought back and ended up winning a tight, 4-3 match.

On April 13, the Panthers traveled to Lewiston to face Bates, and came away with an easy, 7-0 win. "When we played them earlier," said first-year standout Brian Waldron, "they were on their spring break, and didn't take it that seriously." It showed, as Middlebury came away with a thoroughly dominating performance, with only one player dropping a set on the day.

However, this Sunday, Bates was ready for the challenge. The match started out with the Bobcats taking the doubles point, and an early 1-0 lead, putting the early pressure on the Panthers. However, it quickly turned around as Middlebury won at five and six, with Steve Hulce '03 taking his match 6-1, 6-1, and Jeff Oldenburg '06 giving the Panthers a 2-1 lead with a 6-3, 6-4 victory.

"When Hulce won it really energized our guys," said co-captain Stu Brown '04. "And then [Oldenburg] won at the six spot, which was really big. He played a very strong player."

When Justin Ingoglia '05 lost his match to NESCAC Champion William Boe-Wiegaard, it left three first-years to play, needing two wins to advance. Nate Edmunds, Waldron and Ari Beilin, at two, three and four respectively, have been a reliable core for the team despite their inexperience, and the team came to depend on them again on Sunday.

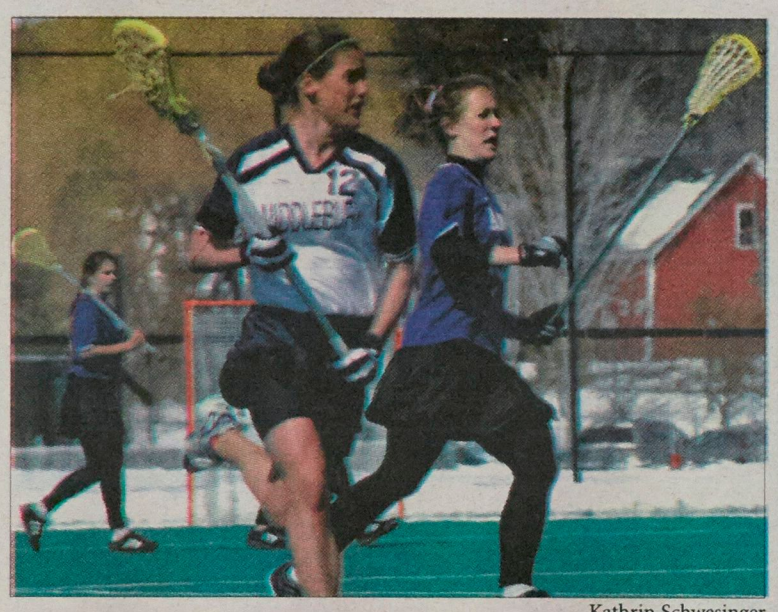
With all three first-years playing at the same time, the tension was palpable outside of Proctor. Waldron won the first set of his match, but Edmunds dropped his first, as did Beilin. The second set was a different story for each player, as Edmunds recovered to win 6-4, Waldron fell 4-6, and Beilin fought off numerous match points to come back and win his second in a tiebreak.

Waldron took a look around him during his match and assessed the situation. "I never doubted Nate winning," he said. "And after Ari came back from being up against match points to win his second set, it really took the pressure off me and I went into the third set without worrying too much about it."

Edmunds' superior fitness caught up with the Bates number two, and he was able to win his third by an easy 6-1 score line. Beilin ran into more trouble, and ended up losing 6-2, but his inspiration of Waldron proved enough for the Panthers to take the win, as the number three won 6-4 to send the Panthers to the NCAA quarterfinals, further than the team had ever gone be-

(see Men's Tennis, page 31)

Women's Lax Takes 3rd NESCAC Crown



Kathrin Schwesinger

Meg Bonney '03 looks to pass to her teammates downfield, as the Panthers went on to defeat Amherst 9-5 for their third straight NESCAC title.

By Zach Foster
Staff Writer

It is becoming almost routine for the Middlebury women's lacrosse team, which advanced to its 10th consecutive NCAA tournament by securing another NESCAC championship this past weekend. But it was not easy. After pummeling Colby College in the semifinals on Saturday, the Panthers faced their stiffest competition of the season the following day in Amherst College.

After receiving a bye in the first round of the NESCAC tournament, the Panthers were set to face the Colby White Mules in a rematch of the season opener which Middlebury dominated 17-7. The rematch proved to be much of the same story on Kohn field. Early on, however, it appeared as if Colby was up to the task, holding the top-ranked Panthers scoreless with strong defense and goaltending from goalie Anna Schierberl Scherr. It was not until nearly eight minutes in when superstar Char

(see Women's Lacrosse, page 32)

Panthers: NESCAC Champs Again

By David Freedman
Staff Writer

Middlebury's men's lacrosse team won its third straight New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) Championship with outstanding overall play this past weekend in a 14-8 victory of Amherst College in the semi-finals and a 15-10 win over Tufts University in the finals.

The Panthers won an automatic bid to the NCAA tournament, and will begin the defense of their three consecutive national championships this Saturday at 1 p.m. in Alumni Stadium against Springfield College.

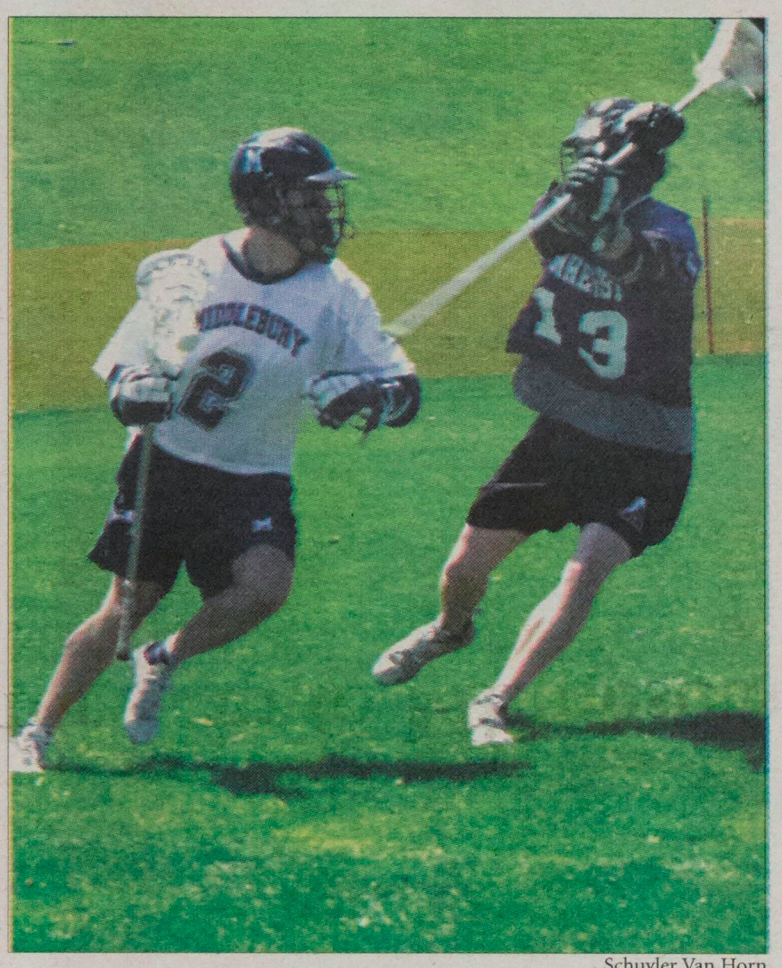
"Our balance and depth across the board was the key to winning this weekend," Head Coach Erin Quinn said. "There was no one overall dominant offensive weapon. We just had a lot of contributors and different guys stepping up in different games."

The defense was stifling on both days, and for almost entire quarters Middlebury's opponents could not even retain a single possession in the Panthers' defensive end. "Eric Krieger '04 is excellent in the goal," Quinn added, "and continued his strong play this weekend, including his great outlet passing after saves. All of our long stick defenders played great, especially our four close defenders, Caleb Holmes '03, John West '04, Ed Brown '05, and Brian Phinney '05 rotating through the three spots."

Amherst gave Middlebury all it had in the first quarter, executing on almost all of its possessions to end the period up 5-3. Then the Panthers took over, only allowing three more goals the rest of the game, and torching the Amherst defense for 11 along the way.

Mike Saraceni '04 and Brian Gault '03 picked apart the Lord

(see Make it Three, page 32)



Schuyler Van Horn

Ben Tobey '04 wards off an Amherst defender in the NESCAC semifinal contest. The Panthers went on to win the tournament for the third time.